

Government defeated in Lords on school transport

House of Lords last night voted by 216 votes to 112 the Government's proposal to use the Education (No 2) Bill which allows local authorities to charge for school transport. It was the Government's first important defeat and many Conservative peers rallied to reject the clause. Later Mr Mark Carlisle, QC, Secretary of State for Education, said he could not say how the Government would respond to the defeat.

Majority of 104 against payments

Lough Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent

The Government last night lost its first important battle in the House of Lords when it was defeated by 216 votes to 112 on a proposal to allow local authorities to charge for school transport. The Government's proposal was defeated by a majority of 104 against payments.

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ment whips, the transport clause was passed with one of the smallest majorities of the present Parliament and with 13 Conservative MPs voting against the proposal.

It seems certain that, bolstered by the stand taken in the Lords, many more MPs can be expected to have the courage of their convictions and take up the cudgels on behalf of their rural constituents.

The stage was set for a clear-cut showdown on the issue when Lady Young, Minister of State for Education, announced that the various amendments to the clause would be set aside for the debate should take place on whether the clause as a whole should be retained or rejected.

As one peer remarked, it was essential that the contentious clause should be considered at the hour of the night when the Lords were in their normal, bright-eyed selves.

Lord Soper, former leader of the Methodist Church.

Another powerful voice calling for the rejection of the clause was that of Lord Butler of Saffron Walden, former Conservative Deputy Prime Minister, who described the proposal as a breach of faith on the part of the Government. The proposed charges would upset not only the Roman Catholics but the Anglican community, the Free Church community, the Federal Council and the National Union of Teachers.

Lord Butler said that in 50 years of public life he had received as many letters on an issue on only two previous occasions: the 1944 Education Act and Suez. Politics, he said, was largely a matter of the heart and people felt deeply on the issue all over the country.

He urged the house not to take a step which would create or maintain any bitterness in the settlement which had been created between the churches and the state.

Lady Young said that the Cabinet had decided that the savings must be made in the education budget, but that they should come from the non-educational parts such as meals, milk and transport. The Government's aim was to preserve the basic fabric of the education system and, in particular, the teacher numbers.

Lady Young said that under the proposals no family would have to pay an economic charge for transport; they were being asked to pay a contribution to the cost of transport. The national subsidy for school transport in 1980 would still total £100m and 80 per cent of that would go in subsidies to the shire counties.



Crews jockey for position at the start of the 34th Head of the River schools race at Hammersmith yesterday, won by Shrewsbury. Report, page 14.

Alternative Olympics sought in move involving 50 countries

Washington, March 13.—Countries planning to boycott the Moscow games in protest against Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan have been invited to attend a meeting in Geneva to discuss sites for an alternative games.

The United States and Australia, who are behind the scheme, want events to be held at four or five venues around the world in the last two weeks of August. Among the places under discussion are Brisbane and Nairobi.

At least 50 countries are estimated to be planning to boycott the Moscow games, it was not known how many of them would be attending the Geneva meeting on Monday.

intense pressure from all sides of the Commons when Mr Norman St John-Stevens, Leader of the House, announced that the debate on British participation in the Moscow Olympics would take place in the middle of the night next Monday.

The Opposition and most of the MPs who rose to question Mr St John-Stevens do not believe that a three-hour debate, starting at 10pm, can possibly provide a proper forum for the important issues that will need to be aired.

Monday will be a supply day, and it is understood that Opposition business managers offered all or any part of it to Mr St John-Stevens for the Olympics debate. They would want their supply day back at a later date—but were prepared to wait for it until after the Easter recess.

Mr St John-Stevens and his colleagues then appear to have demanded Opposition time (by way of a supply day) to fit the business in. Opposition leaders apparently replied that the Government wanted the debate, it was Government business and the Government really would have to make time.

The impasse persisted through the business statement in the House, with the Cabinet holding the view that if it all seemed somewhat petty, then the Opposition ought to share the obloquy.

The timing of the debate at any rate left senior ministers confident that, on the free vote, the motion would be carried. In the unlikely event of defeat in the lobbies in the early hours of next Tuesday morning, the Cabinet will look again at its recommendation to British athletes, however.

Mr Mugabe shifts emphasis to change

From Nicholas Ashford
Salisbury, March 13

The brief honeymoon between Mr Robert Mugabe, Rhodesia's Prime Minister-designate, and the country's 220,000 whites may be nearing an end.

During the week after his party's election victory the emphasis of his public statements was on reconciliation and reassuring white interests. Today, however, he talked about the changes he intends to introduce after the country becomes independent next month.

While reiterating his desire to retain white skills, Mr Mugabe nevertheless emphasized that Africans had voted for his party in order to effect change: "It is the status quo we fought against and we must be seen to be overthrowing it."

He listed four priorities, where his government would act as quickly as possible. These were land resettlement, education, health, and the civil service.

It was his plan for restructuring the civil service, long a bastion of white interests where few blacks were able to rise far, that will cause most concern within the European community.

Mr Mugabe said that Mr Richard Hove, who is to be the new Minister of the Public Service, was already examining ways of restructuring the Administration. He made it clear the emphasis of change would be on African promotion and the establishment of a "non-racial system" in the civil service.

Mr Hove has already indicated that in order to increase black civil service pay it may be necessary to raise the minimum constraint on salaries. "It is now up to Mrs Thatcher, and the sooner we get there the better."

He confirmed that an order worth £250m that he had placed for European A300 airbuses, mainly to fly the routes in Europe, was being reviewed. The company management is convinced that the aviation authority's decision will be overturned on appeal, he said.

The authority said last night that it was disagreeable such a bold scheme as that proposed by Laker should have to be rejected.

"We recognize that the time has come when civil aviation in western Europe should be subject to the more open trading and competitive concepts that govern the greater part of commercial relations," so said "Like the EEC Commission, however, the authority favours an essentially evolutionary approach, so that each step can be evaluated on its merits and put to the test before the next is taken. Only in this way is it likely that steps towards liberalization will be accepted by other countries."

Orby strike orders Soviet sh aid

Donald Macintyre
Reporter

Workers' leaders at Northamptonshire are local to Russian and Polish unions for financial help. The workers' leaders at Northamptonshire are local to Russian and Polish unions for financial help.

John Cowling, a left-wing member of the Iron and Steel Confederation (ISTC) lives in the Polish embassy in London, hoping that it will pass on the steel union leaders in the countries.

Cowling, who was said at ISTC headquarters in Moscow yesterday to be acting on his own initiative, said that attempts had been arranged through the labour ties at the embassies.

added: "We have a ship pact with the steelworkers and we are in they will help us out. 11 weeks most of our workers are in desperate straits."

Cowling visited Poland years ago and the Soviet last year with steelwork delegations. He said that money being sought was a finance "picketing or strike like that. It is purely a hardship fund."

added: "The union has been from Western Europe, including those in n. Now, we are going to n. Europe, I do not see difference. If necessary we go to China for money."

Clash likely on state chiefs' pay

Salary levels of Britain's state industry chiefs are likely once again to cause embarrassing clashes for the Government. Heads of public industries are worried that their pay could fall below the high salaries being paid in private industry.

This is despite the increases due next month, when the Government implements the third tranche of the controversial pay rises agreed by the Labour Government in 1978. The review body on top salaries, under the chairmanship of Lord Boyle of Handsworth, is carrying out a salary survey which should be submitted to the Prime Minister in late spring.

£300,000 Papworth gift
A businessman, Mr David Robinson, has arranged for £300,000 to be given to the heart transplant programme at Papworth Hospital, near Cambridge. The money, from the Robinson Family Trust, will be paid in instalments over two years. The Government is to allocate up to £100,000 to improve intensive care units and theatres at the hospital.

Disease reassurance
Specialists said there was no danger of an epidemic of legionnaires' disease, a type of pneumonia, because it was not communicable. But people who have stayed recently at the Sunningdale Hotel in Corby, Northamptonshire, where the germ has been found in the water supply, should see their doctors if they feel ill.

NGA action on pay
The National Graphical Association is to start industrial action in the provincial newspaper and general printing industry in the next few days. The action, which could involve selective strikes, was decided on after the union rejected a pay and productivity package. However, two other printing trade unions are to recommend acceptance.

Nalco ends £2m loans
White collar local authority workers stepped up their industrial action by withdrawing from 15 councils £2m of short-term loans which will have to be repaid to the National and Local Government Officers Association by the end of next week. The union claim "almost 100 per cent" support from members in blacking rate demands from town halls.

Leaders: On the Zimbabwe elections, from the Very Rev C. A. Shaw, and Mr Miles Hudson, on the fishing industry, from Commander M. R. F. Rankin.
Leading articles: Olympics: Pakistan; Freedom of Information; Features, page 16; Geoffrey Smith on the role of the new democrats; Keith Kyle reports on the progress of co-

Czechoslovakia expels British student

Mr Angus Carrill, a British student aged 18, was detained at a lecture in Prague organized by Professor Julius Tomin's "Flying University" and after questioning for some hours, was ordered from Czechoslovakia. He was the second foreigner to be expelled from the country in a week after attending the lectures. The British Embassy was awaiting details of the expulsion.

Hostages' fate in ballot
Iranians begin elections today for a new Parliament which, by order of Ayatollah Khomeini, will decide the fate of the American hostages. However, it could be May before it discusses the issue. An American surgeon is flying to Panama to judge whether the deposed Shah should have his spleen removed.

Women's abortion plea
More than 250 delegates to the TUC women's conference in Brighton launched a last-ditch attempt to defeat the Abortion (Amendment) Bill, which is due for final debate today. A telegram to MPs urged them to heed the advice of the trade union movement and reject the Bill.

Pc hostage in hijack
A Suffolk policeman was held hostage during a 70-mph chase after his car was hijacked by a man he believed to be armed. The chase ended when the patrol car, with five police cars in pursuit, was rammed at a road block by a lorry carrying a load of bricks. A man was detained and the lorry was towed away.

Five years for corruption
A former lord provost of Dundee, a former bailie and a businessman were jailed at the High Court in Edinburgh for five years each after being found guilty of corruption. They are to lodge appeals next week. The case concerned a £5m development.

Labour: Inquiry: "Rigging" of votes for reselection of candidates would be easier under new proposals, Tribune Group says in evidence 2.
"Sus" law: Greater Manchester Police figures show that power to arrest suspected persons need not lead to its excessive use.

Embassy hostages: Colombia announced plans to shorten trials of suspected guerrillas in a move to help secure the release of 30 diplomats held in the Dominican Republic Embassy.
Classified advertisements: Appointments, pages 24, 27; Car Buyers' Guide, 27; Holidays and Hotels, 28; Personal, 29, 30.

existence on the West Bank; Moscow Diary by Michael Binyon; Obituary, page 18; Sir William Mallalieu, Miss Margaret Eden, Sir Roland Symonette; Sport, pages 14, 15; Racing: Tied Cottage wins Cheltenham Gold Cup; Football: Lord to miss League Cup final; Squash rackets: Hunt wins British open for seventh time; Ice skating: British pair slip back

Cheap air routes by Laker rejected

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

A plan by Sir Freddie Laker to open up to 630 new air routes in Europe with cheap fares was rejected last night by the Civil Aviation Authority in London.

The authority also refused applications for new European services by Air UK and Britannia Airways. Britannia had made an unsuccessful request to sell some seats at scheduled fares on its package holiday flights.

Licences were granted by the authority to British Caledonian for cheap fares on six routes from Gatwick airport to Europe: to Helsinki, Vienna, Cologne, Hamburg, Hanover, and Stuttgart. Licences held by British Airways to Luxembourg, Paris, Venice, Bordeaux, and Stuttgart were renewed.

The authority's decision is a serious blow to the expansion plans of Sir Freddie Laker for his independent airline, Laker Airways. But last night he reacted in the ebullient fashion that gained him licences to operate Skytrain cheap-fare services across the North Atlantic after a battle lasting seven years with the British and United States aviation authorities.

"We are appealing instantly to the Secretary of State for Trade," he said. He has to make the political decision whether Britain actually subscribes to private enterprise and free competition, and to the competition rules of the Treaty of Rome."

The aviation authority was sticking to regulation and price control while the Government was talking about competition capital invested is 9.7 per cent. British oil companies report "windfall" profits whenever the price of crude oil rises sharply because of the way they have to adjust the value of their stocks on a first-in-first-out basis.

BP is facing increasing exploration and development costs. A spokesman pointed out yesterday that to develop the Magnus field in the North Sea, BP would have to spend £1,300m, the same as for the hugely profitable Forties field, while the production from Magnus will be only a quarter that of Forties. He said that with inflation the scale of capital investment and working capital needed had been rising sharply.

BP 'blames' inflation for fourfold leap in profits

By Our Financial Staff

British Petroleum, the international oil group in which the Government and the Bank of England have a 46 per cent stake, yesterday joined the other major oil companies in reporting sharply higher profits on the back of crude oil price increases last year. As with Shell and the clearing banks, all of which have shown resurging profits, BP has gone to great lengths to dampen possible criticisms of its fourfold increase in profits.

Net income, which is effectively profits after tax, has risen from £444m to £1,620m. But a statement from the company says that when adjusted for inflation the rise would have been more modest—from £219m to £602m—and that the return on

capital invested is 9.7 per cent. British oil companies report "windfall" profits whenever the price of crude oil rises sharply because of the way they have to adjust the value of their stocks on a first-in-first-out basis.

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Financial Editor, page 21

Space-based camera may film origin of the universe

By Nicholas Timmins

The first prototype of a camera that will be able to see about 14,000 million years back in time and which may prove the "big bang" theory of the origin of the universe was delivered yesterday for testing by the European Space Agency.

The camera, which will detect photons of light, is part of the 43-foot long space telescope due to be launched on a shuttle by NASA in 1984.

The telescope, which has a 2.4-metre (95-inch) mirror, will be the first optical telescope to be put into space and able to see visible light rather than invisible wavelengths such as ultra-violet and X-ray sources. Professor Robert Wilson, Professor of Astronomy at University College, London, who sat on the international committee that reviewed the telescope last year, said yesterday: "With ground-based telescopes we can see about half the size of the universe and, therefore, back about half its age."

"With the space telescope we will be able to see 90 per cent back in time to the point where the universe was only 10 per cent or perhaps 20 per cent old. It is this possibility that is so exciting. We might actually start to see an evolving universe."

The "big bang" theory maintains that the universe started when the original matter exploded outwards, and scientists believe that they can still detect the original radiation from that explosion. Going back half the universe's estimated age, astronomers say, they can see the difference on the grand scale to the universe as it is at present.

Professor Wilson said that one of the projects aims was to settle cosmological questions, including the argument between the "big bang" and "steady state" theories, the latter of which maintains that the universe has always existed in its present state.

Astronomers "see" back in time by examining very distant and often very faint sources from which light has taken thousands of millions of years to travel to earth, thus depicting events which happened that long ago.

Earth's atmosphere distorts light as it passes through, limiting what ground-based telescopes can detect. The NASA telescope, which is being built in conjunction with the European Space Agency, will orbit 400 to 500 miles above Earth and, hence, above its atmosphere. Only in this way is it possible to get a range seven times greater than Earth-based instruments although it is only half the size of the largest ground telescopes.

The camera array has been designed and built by the British Aerospace Dynamics Group at Bristol on a £7.5m contract.

The camera will take up to 10 hours to take one picture which will be transmitted back to earth.

President Tito unchanged

Belgrade, March 13.—President Tito's doctors said today that his general condition was essentially unchanged since yesterday when it was described as very grave.

A brief medical bulletin said he was undergoing continued intensive treatment. Reuters.

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HOME NEWS

BSC ballot on pay ruled out by Mr Sirs

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

A secret union ballot of 140,000 strikers on the British Steel Corporation's "final" pay offer was effectively ruled out last night by the leader of the main union in the industry.

Mr William Sirs, general secretary of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, said: "The question of a further ballot of the workers has been suggested by the employers. I do not think that we shall be going along that path."

He was speaking shortly after Mr Robert Scholey, the BSC chief executive, had indicated that preparations were in hand for another corporation-organized vote of the employees if the unions refused to take this step.

Envelopes are addressed ready for a second secret ballot, this time on the corporation's 14.4 per cent pay and productivity package, which failed to gain acceptance in three-day talks earlier this week.

The idea came under heavy fire from Mr Sirs yesterday. "The employers suggest that the figures (in their ballot) showed a desire on the part of the members to get back to work on their current offer. My view is that the members were not asked whether they accepted the offer. They were asked if they wanted a ballot about a vote on the offer."

"Only 44 per cent have said they would like a ballot. Of these, there must be some who wanted a chance to vote 'No', so even if we were to ballot the members it would be rejected. Why waste two weeks to find out something we already know?"

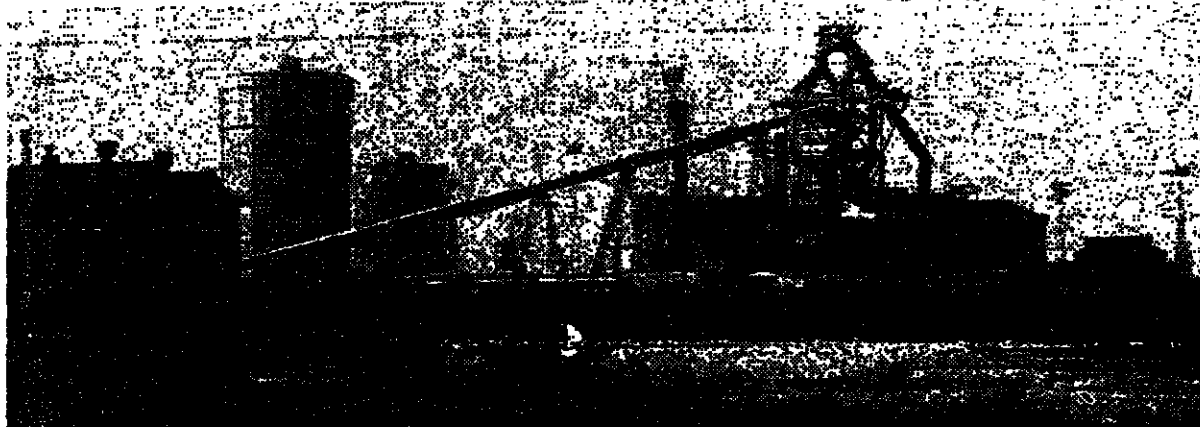
The corporation does not accept the union's interpretation. Mr Scholey regretted that the unions were unwilling to put a draft agreement negotiated this week to the men.

The draft agreement discussed by both sides this week is to be widely publicized by BSC management, who value it at 10 per cent in terms of wage rises this year.

The unions are thinking of 14 per cent increases. On top of that, they want 5 per cent more for an enabling agreement to spur local productivity drive, but the corporation is willing to offer only 4 per cent for a trial three months up to June 22 while negotiations take place at works level.

The full 16-member negotiating committee of the ISIC is to meet in London on Monday, and will be recommended by Mr Sirs to reject the proposed ballot.

Parliamentary report, page 11



The Redcar blast furnace, showpiece of British Steel's £400m investment, silent during the shutdown.

Six weeks to resume full production after strike is settled
Furnaces kept going in 'operation dampdown'By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

Full production of iron and steel in the British Steel Corporation's plants may not be achieved much before the middle of May, assuming that the impasse over pay is resolved by the end of this month.

The plants, which have effectively been closed down since before Christmas in anticipation of the nationwide strike which began on January 2, have been carefully maintained since then.

Union claims that some of the blastfurnaces are in danger of cooling below the critical temperature were yesterday rejected by corporation executives, although difficulties associated with bringing important units such as the Redcar blastfurnace back on stream after such a long shutdown could arise.

Mr Robert Scholey, the corporation's chief executive, said yesterday: "I have had no reports of any of the production plants within the corporation being at risk. Coke ovens and blast furnaces are inspected daily by management and safety cover is still being provided by the unions."

"We are allowing six weeks to get under way and build up to normal production of iron and steel, although once the strike is settled we shall be able to start re-rolling operations immediately."

A smooth return to production will be critical to the corporation's ability to win back business lost to foreign steel producers, who are aggressively exploiting the corporation's lack of production with tempting offers of extended credit to customers of the BSC.

In anticipation of a protracted strike the Corporation "damped down" its blastfurnaces and coke ovens before Christmas to prevent serious damage which, in the case of a blastfurnace, would involve virtual rebuilding.

The damping down is similar to that used to keep a household fire burning by adding non-combustible materials and reducing the draught. The blastfurnaces which produce iron have been charged with non-metallic substances instead of the normal "burden" of iron ore. Supplies of gas, which provide the furnace blast, have been cut to the minimum.

A similar procedure has been carried out with the coke ovens which provide the coke for feeding into the blastfurnaces. The damping down enables the furnaces and coke ovens to be kept hot, but in the event of their cooling below a minimum temperature the refractory lining bricks would collapse and a rebuilding operation, both costly and time-consuming, would follow.

The operation enables production units to be restarted relatively quickly and the maintenance of safety cover and daily inspections are of critical importance.

The restart of facilities geared to the corporation's new target production level of 15 million tonnes of liquid steel a year will be of vital importance to its ability to compete with the cheaper steel of its competitors.

Although the corporation's confidence that the return to production will be smooth, a source of concern was the huge 10,000 tonnes a day capacity blastfurnace at Redcar, which is the centrepiece of the £400m investment on the site. In its first five-year "campaign" the furnace, which is

one of the biggest in Europe, was scheduled to produce between 18 million and 20 million tonnes of iron.

Five times larger than any of the other furnaces on the Teesside complex, the Redcar furnace was in operation for 10 weeks only before the strike began.

When the strike started the furnace had been lifted to about half its daily production capacity and the shutdown could not have occurred at a more critical time, since the corporation had no experience of operating such a large unit.

The low-cost iron which the furnace produces is central to the corporation's plans for competing with its foreign rivals and the plan is to load the furnace to maximum capacity to benefit from its inherent economies.

Similar difficulties will be faced in South Wales with the 5,000-tonnes-a-day furnace at Leavenworth, but assuming structural difficulties arise most of the smaller furnaces on Humberside, Yorkshire and in Scotland should be able to be brought back on stream more rapidly.

Yorkshire militancy increases

From Ronald Kershaw
Sheffield

Rising militancy in the national steel strike became evident in Yorkshire and Humberside yesterday.

The South Yorkshire strike committee, representing 23,000 steel workers, urged the national executive of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation not to continue talks on a pay settlement "until the BSC puts hard cash on the table".

At Scunthorpe members of the National Union of Blastfurnacemen called for sanction to withdraw safety cover from

blastfurnaces and coke ovens at the Scunthorpe steel complex. The union said last night that the matter would be discussed by the executive next week.

Officials from strike committees in England, Scotland and Wales will meet at Salford, Manchester, today to review the strike and to produce a new strategy designed totally to dislocate steel production in the private sector and steel working by engineering companies throughout Britain.

Mr Edward Thorne, secretary of the national coordinating

committee, said last night: "We are going to look at new tactics that should have been employed at the start of the strike. We shall look at the coordination of activities on a national basis. If this had been done in the first place we should not have had such a ragged situation as we have now."

The most serious threat to British Steel is the possibility of the withdrawal of safety cover from blastfurnaces and coke ovens at Scunthorpe. If the coke ovens went cold it would cost up to £12m and take many months to restore them to operational use.

Strikers blamed for £30,000 damage to crane

From Our Correspondent
Southend

Essex police yesterday blamed steel strikers for causing damage estimated at £30,000 to a computerised mobile crane at Southend. The vehicle was being used to unload steel from a German coaster on to a sea front jetty.

Police said that a group of strikers arrived to prevent the steel leaving the jetty. In the night while the steel men remained on picket duty the computer on the crane was sabotaged.

Police chase hijacked car and Pc hostage

A policeman was held hostage during a 70-mile car chase after his car was hijacked by a man he believed to be armed. The chase ended when the car crashed at a roadblock manned by police marksmen.

Police Constable Craig Jenkins, aged 22, from Beccles police station, Suffolk, stopped a car at Ringsfield near by its occupant forced him back into his Ford Escort patrol car and made him drive off.

The hijacker used the car radio to call up police headquarters and say that no harm would come to the hostage if they were not followed.

After a chase involving several other police cars, which took the Escort into Norfolk and down the main A11 Norwich to London trunk road, the car was rammed by an articulated lorry carrying a load of brick at the Fiveways Roundabout, at Barton Mills, on the trunk road.

The car had been driven at high speed down the trunk road through Aylesbury and Thetford, pursued by an unmarked police car and four patrol cars.

At the Barton Mills roundabout Suffolk police marksmen armed with shotguns and hand guns prepared to block the road with a lorry, but there was no time for the lorry to be put in position as its driver, Mr Daniel Parry, of Stoke-on-Trent, drove it across the road and into the side of the patrol car. A man in the patrol car was hustled away by police.

PC Jenkins, his hand heavily bleeding and bandaged, was taken away by ambulance.

PC Jenkins, a bachelor, was later said to have been "winded" in the collision.

Home-made money

Gerard Wright, aged 50, of Basson Street, Radford, Nottingham, who made counterfeit 50p pieces with a home-made plasticine mould and a saucepan, was given a six-month suspended jail sentence at Nottingham Crown Court yesterday; he was also fined £100 on a theft charge.

Progress in pay talks

Pay negotiations setting basic rates for up to 800,000 building workers were adjourned yesterday until March 25 with negotiators on both sides reporting progress. The unions have rejected a 14 per cent offer.

Commons recess

The Commons will adjourn for the Easter recess from April 3 until April 14.

Tribune Group fear a 'rigged' vote on MP

By Our Political Correspondent

No change should be made in constituency party arrangements for election or re-election of Labour candidates because proposed alternatives would make "rigging" easier, the left-wing Tribune Group of MPs states in evidence to the Labour Party commission examining the future party organisation.

In its submission, published yesterday, the group rejects the concept of the "Greek city-state system" of all local party members deciding the choice of a candidate or the re-election of a sitting MP.

"The lesson of Newham, Northeast, must not be forgotten," the group states. "If the critical decisions in the constituency Labour Party had been made at members' meetings it might still be represented by Mr Reg Prentice [now a Conservative minister], and his subsequent history scarcely suggests that that would be to the benefit of the party."

For the future good of the party, the commission should ensure that the electoral system was based on the general management committee and the wards and branches of unions which sent delegates to it.

Criticism from the "moderates" of the Labour Party is centred on the "rigging" of the system, a character of most general management committees. They want all party members (with the qualification of one year's membership and attendance at one previous

meeting) to choose the candidate. Mr Ian Mikardo, Tribune Group spokesman, said yesterday: "Members of the local party have to do it to ensure that the branch or ward members are not too far removed from the points on which the candidate cannot be bettered by his branch or ward members. It is a serious danger that serious damage to the party will be done by the influence of the papers."

"That influence can have been in various ways," he says, "and most unfairly views of members."

A second objection to the "rigging" would be the practice of "padding" the list of candidates to ensure the chances of a particular person for the candidature. Mr Prentice's history and criticism are created by the "rigging" of the system, and seldom seen at other parties.

Another danger would be the weakening of management, committing the ward organisation

'No change' sought for Labour

By Michael Hatfield
Political Reporter

Shadow ministers are arguing the case for "no change" on all three main constitutional issues confronting the party in papers sent to Labour MPs last night.

It means that the Shadow Cabinet is seeking the support of the parliamentary party in resisting left-wing pressure for automatic submission for re-election of MPs, changes in the election of the leader and virtual national executive control over the general election manifesto.

The recommendations to the party accepted will be forwarded to the Labour commission of inquiry into the party's organization and structure. The proposals will be discussed at a full meeting of the PLP on March 24.

It is understood that the Shadow Cabinet favours the half-way house proposal on re-election which was first proposed by Mr Ian Mikardo, whereby a formula was constructed in which an MP would not necessarily have to face a re-election procedure. While such a proposal reverses the decision taken at last year's party conference, most Labour MPs are expected to support it.

BL pay de may be imposed

By Donald Macintyre
Labour Staff

BL is expected to want leaders today that will be deadlocked over a pay rise for 85,000 car workers.

Broken rank management have to impose pay offer unilaterally. The company finally yesterday a meeting with union leaders, though it was not clear that Mr Mestery (Moss) general secretary of the Leyland Association and General Workers' would attend as the originally hoped.

Mr Evans earlier this declined an invitation to talk on the ground that Granville Hawley, the officer responsible for negotiations, was the person to be present.

The company went on expecting, Mr Terence President of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, with Mr Kenneth Cox, relevant national officer, this morning's talks. The general secretary, the smaller unions, also expected to attend together with the national who are represented in the union side of the Joint Negotiating Council.

Council bans weedkiller

From Our Correspondent
Nottingham

Nottingham City Council yesterday banned the use of the weedkiller 2,4,5-T in its parks and gardens.

Workers were ordered to isolate all stocks and not use it in any circumstances.

The move comes after claims that women who come in con-

tact with the chemical suffer miscarriages and birth to children with defects such as a hole heart.

Mr Benjamin Allison, mayor of Nottingham public services committee, said: "It is a serious matter and we have asked experts to look at the weedkiller safe c-

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A letter has gone out urging branches to send men to Selby, where Mrs Thatcher will go down the Wistow mine.

The miners are believed to

NGA threatens wide industrial action

By Our Labour Staff

Widespread industrial action in the provincial newspaper and general printing industry will start in the next few days. The action, details of which are being kept secret, was sanctioned yesterday by the National Graphical Association.

Mr Joe Wade, the NGA's general secretary, said after a meeting of the union's national council: "We are going to hit them where it hurts". The action would not involve the union's 65,000 members in an all-out strike at this stage but could involve selective strikes.

The union decided on the action after rejecting a pay and productivity package from the employers which would have given a minimum earnings level of £75 per week, an increase of

20.6 per cent. The offer also includes a reduction in the working week from 40 hours to 39 next January, and to 37½ hours by July 1982. "The employers claim their offer is a 20 per cent increase," Mr Wade said. "In fact, on the basis of their figures, when they have reckoned average earnings for skilled workers as £115 a week, the offer they are making averages 16 per cent."

"We are convinced that inflation is going to rise about 20 per cent in the life of this increase, and 16 per cent is not going to protect our members against that inflation," he said.

Mr Wade said the productivity proposals in the package were "so far-reaching and so fundamental that the price they are offering is by no means big enough."

The two other main unions in

the industry, the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades (Sogat) and the National Society of Operative Printers, Graphical and Media Personnel (Natsopa), are to put the offer to their 130,000 members with a recommendation that it be accepted.

Mr Wade said the productivity proposals put to the NGA were very different in substance and character from those put to the other unions.

A representative of the union players said last night: "The NGA's rejection and threatened industrial action in the present falling market for printing appears to be totally unrealistic."

He said the offer would increase average earnings by just under £20 a week, and the reduction in the working week next January was worth a further 3 per cent.

Pay rise limit of 14pc expected for Civil Service

By Our Labour Staff

The Government is due to announce in the Commons today the cash limit it has fixed for Civil Service pay rises over the next year. It is widely thought that the limit will be similar to the 14 per cent fixed for other public service workers.

Evidence compiled by the Independent Pay Research Unit suggests that civil servants are due for average increases of about 18 per cent. The unions have made clear that they will oppose the Government, and have threatened industrial action.

Union leaders are being informed of the Government's decision this morning and may seek a meeting with Mrs Margaret Thatcher to press their case. One of the unions, the Society of Civil and Public Servants, is already consulting its membership on a call for industrial action.

Scargill wages motion vetoed by Mr McGahey

By Our Labour Editor

The wage ambitions of Mr Arthur Scargill, left-wing leader of the Yorkshire miners, fell at an unlikely fence yesterday. His area's proposal to the annual conference of the National Union of Mineworkers that pit men should have pay rises of 43 per cent from next November was ruled out of order by Mr Michael McGahey, the union's Communist vice-president.

Mr McGahey, veteran leader of the Scottish coalfields, was standing in as chairman of the NUM executive in place of the president, Mr Joseph Gormley, who was indisposed.

He endorsed an aide-memoire from the president that Yorkshire miners' demands should not be debated at the July conference because it clashed with the terms of this year's pay agreement in the mining industry.

Mrs Thatcher faces hostile miners' reception today

Mrs Margaret Thatcher is expected to face a hostile reception from Yorkshire miners today when she visits their coalfield.

Miners are planning a huge demonstration when the Prime Minister arrives at the Selby coalfield to inspect progress on the new development.

Indications of a large turnout from Yorkshire's militant 66,000 pitmen are contained in the latest issue of Yorkshire Miner, the union's newspaper. A front page article urges them to "afford Mrs T the welcome she deserves."

A letter has gone out urging branches to send men to Selby, where Mrs Thatcher will go down the Wistow mine.

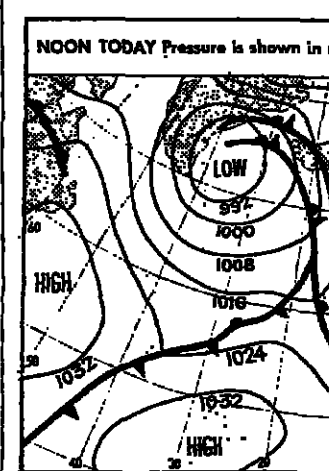
The miners are believed to

be planning a reception similar to the one Sir Keith Joseph, the Secretary of State for Industry, received in South Wales recently, when he was pelted with eggs and tomatoes. One of the Yorkshire organisers said: "That was nothing compared to what the Iron Maiden will have to face."

The National Union of Mineworkers' brand of 2,000-member Kellingley colliery, near Pontefract, will send a coachload of demonstrators. Mr George Kelly, the branch treasurer, said yesterday: "We shall be demonstrating with banners and placards protesting at Tory policies."

"We shall certainly give Mrs Thatcher the welcome she deserves, and it will not be a warm one, either."

Weather forecast and recordings



Today

Sun rises: 6.17 am
Moon rises: 5.9 am
Sun sets: 6.4 pm
Moon sets: 3.5 pm

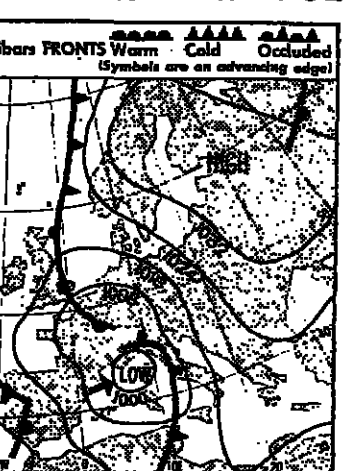
New moon: March 16.
Lighting up: 6.34 pm to 5.45 am.
High water: London Bridge, 11.50 am, 6.50 pm; Ayr, 12.20 pm, 6.20 pm; Dover, 8.00 am, 9.17 pm, 6.20 pm; Salford, 4.4 am, 6.40 am, 4.17 pm, 6.70 pm; Liverpool, 9.10 am, 8.60 pm, 9.42 pm, 8.70 pm.

1 foot = 0.3048 m. 1 in = 2.54 cm.
Pressure will be high to the N and W of the British Isles and low over the near Continent.

Forecast for 6 am to midnight, London, SE. England, East Anglia, Channel Islands: Mostly cloudy, occasional rain; wind N, fresh or strong; max temp 5° or 6° (41° to 43°F).

SW. NEW England, Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland: Mostly dry, sunny periods, from 1 places at first; wind N or NE, moderate; max temp 7° or 8° (45° or 46°F).

NE England, Borders, Edin-



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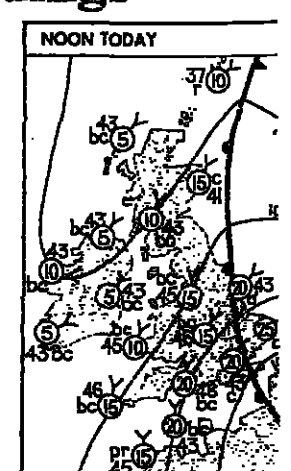
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NE England, Borders, Edin-

JAP 11/10/150

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BUY BRITISH, OR BYE BYE BRITAIN.

Everywhere you turn you hear that Britain is sinking fast. Everyone agrees that we're in for a rough time.

But it seems something that individually we're unable to understand because we're all enjoying a better way of life than we used to.

But this is only relative, and other countries are leaving us far behind.

We have to realise, before it's too late, that Britain will become a second class, or even third class industrial nation if we become unable to generate the wealth we need to support us. Failure would be unthinkable.

The solution is complex and the problem needs to be attacked from many sides.

Many of us probably feel that it is too great a problem for us to make an individual contribution.

But there are *some* things we can do to help. And we can, we must, begin today.

We can start by supporting British manufacturers whenever possible.

Imported goods are flooding into our high streets and industrial markets. Many are made just as well by British manufacturers.

If not better.

We must have a strong home market on which to build our exports.

The motor industry is one which particularly needs

your support. And though at BL we cannot deny that our own company is our greatest concern, we also have a genuine concern for all British manufacturers and the employment they provide for millions of people.

Our industry is one of the vital areas of manufacturing industry, and BL is the only British owned volume car maker.

So we hold the key to Britain having its own car industry.

It has been claimed that our call to consider British products is little more than a call for blatant patriotism.

Not true.

Many of the criticisms and reasons for instinctively turning to other car makers' products are founded on our problems of two or three years ago.

But we have made radical changes.

And you can see the difference in all the cars in our showrooms today.

You can see it too in the Allegro 3, just named best buy in its class by France's top motoring magazine L'Auto Journal. In the exciting TR7 convertible. In Leyland Vehicle's new T45 Roadtrain truck.

And of course you'll see it in the sensational Mini Metro, on target for October.

So please, next time you are in the market to buy anything, see how the British product stacks up.

If then you find it doesn't suit you, we'll be surprised.

But we won't complain.

ISSUED MAINLY IN THE INTERESTS OF BL BUT ALSO ON BEHALF OF BRITISH MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY.

HOME NEWS

Trust gives £300,000 for transplants and Government £100,000

By John Roper
Health Services Correspondent

A gift of £300,000 from a charitable trust will ensure at least 16 heart transplant operations at Papworth Hospital, Cambridge, in 1981 and 1982.

In addition, Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, said in a parliamentary written reply last night that the Government would make a special allocation of up to £100,000 to provide improved operating theatres and intensive care units at Papworth Hospital.

He said that he had accepted the advice of the Transplant Advisory Panel that planned programmes of at least eight heart transplant operations a year were acceptable. But that was provided the operations were carried out in suitable centres such as Papworth and would not prove detrimental to other health services.

The donation of £300,000 from the Robinson Charitable Trust was welcomed. Heart transplantation surgery was established in several centres abroad and patients achieved long survival rates. Results of recent programmes in this country were promising.

The money will be paid in monthly instalments of £12,500 from the beginning of next year. The National Heart Research Fund, which has met most of the cost so far of the series of operations at Papworth by Mr Terence English and his team, will pay for operations this year.

If its appeal for £250,000 is successful it will consider inviting another centre to treat patients.

Mr David Robinson, a Newmarket businessman gave the money for the trust.

Mrs Pauline Burnett, chairman of Cambridgeshire Area Health Authority, said yesterday that doctors and patients were extremely grateful for the gift. Papworth hospital would still need Government money after 1982 if the heart transplant was successful, as they knew it would be.

Our Cambridge Correspondent writes: Mr Robinson, who made his fortune in the early days of the television rental business, arranged the gift to Papworth from the Robinson Charitable Trust for the hospital's shortage of cash for its heart transplant programme.

Mr Terence English, the surgeon who leads the team at Papworth, has been seeking charitable income to support transplant operations. The National Heart Research Fund has promised £50,000, but most of that has been spent on the present series of transplant operations.

Mr Robinson has given about £17m towards the founding and endowment of Cambridge University's newest undergraduate college.

Once the owner of the largest string of racecourses in training in Britain, Mr Robinson lives with his wife in a bungalow in the grounds of his former stables in Bury Road, Newmarket.

Miss Peggy Umney, a fellow trustee, said yesterday that he would have preferred that his name was not associated with the gift to Papworth. "He really wants to lead a peaceful and quiet life, but he does enjoy helping people."

TUC women call for Corrie Bill rejection

From Frances Gibb
Brighton

More than 250 women trade unionists yesterday launched a last-ditch attempt to defeat the Abortion (Amendment) Bill, due for final debate in the House of Commons today.

Delegates from more than 50 trade unions at the TUC women's conference in Brighton endorsed a telegram urging MPs to heed the advice of the trade union movement and reject the Bill.

"We plead with the Commons to take this evening to consider the pain and suffering which will be inflicted on so many women and their families if this proposal becomes law," it said.

Delegates were dismayed that Parliament seemed prepared to sacrifice the livelihoods of children of broken marriages in order to curtail further a woman's right to control her own fertility, it said.

Urging support for the Abortion Act, 1967, it said: "MPs should take full note of the views of the British Women's Association that no amendment whatever is required to existing legislation."

The women were backed by Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, who said he fully shared their concern about the extra time for the Bill. It posed a direct threat to the wellbeing of women.

The telegram is to be sent to Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, Mr Stanley Ouse, shadow Minister of Health, Mr John Corrie, Conservative MP for Ayrshire, North and Bute, and promoter of the Bill, and Miss Josephine Richardson, Labour MP for Barking.

Delegates agreed to send telegrams also to MPs sponsored by trade unions.

The telegram was drawn up after news that the Corrie Bill is to have extra parliamentary time.

The Bill was down for debate after a private member's Bill sponsored by Mr Robert Taylor, Conservative MP for Croydon, North-West, to index-link maintenance payments granted by courts in divorce cases.

Mr Taylor yesterday withdrew his Bill, giving more than five months for the Corrie Bill which still stands. They include lowering the maximum limit for abortion from 28 to 24 weeks.

The conference, the fiftieth held by TUC women, also condemned the Government's Employment Bill, which, it said, would lead to a loss in job opportunities for women and reduce provision for child care.

Ms Patricia Leman of the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education, said the proposals made the procedure for claiming pregnancy leave more complicated, as the woman now had to write three sets of letters; they doubled the six months' service requirement for unfair dismissal claims, including the grounds of pregnancy; and exempted firms of up to six employees from statutory obligations to reemploy a woman after a birth.

Opening the conference, Mrs Marie Paterson, the chairman, said that in 1931 one in seven



Free cigarettes from the Tobacco Workers' Union awaiting delegates to the TUC women's conference in Brighton yesterday. Smoking is banned at the conference.

'Suspected persons' powers need not lead to excessive police use

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Evidence made available to The Times by Greater Manchester Police shows that power to arrest suspected persons, now being investigated by a Commons select committee, need not automatically lead to its excessive use or fit use especially among black people.

The evidence must be seen against increasing criticism of Section 4 of the Vagrancy Act, 1824, under which the powers are available. A subcommittee of the Home Affairs Committee was told by the "Scrap Sus" Campaign on February 7 that in 1977, 3,501 people were proceeded against in England and Wales as suspected persons.

Of those, the Metropolitan Police District accounted for 1,914 charges, 55 per cent of all charges brought; Merseyside 430 (12 per cent); Manchester 260 (7 per cent); West Midlands 167 (5 per cent); South Wales 148 (4 per cent) and West Yorkshire 82 (2 per cent).

In 1977, 1,042 people (44 per cent of those arrested for "sus") were classified as of African or Afro-Caribbean appearance, the committee was told.

The campaign said: "The disproportionate number of black youths arrested for 'sus', the nature of the offence and the high rate of conviction have led to 'sus' becoming a major factor in embittering relations between the black community and the police."

In fact, the total given for Manchester does not square with police figures, 241 charges in 1977. Last year's total number of charges of suspected persons, they say, was 270.

More whites than blacks were arrested for "sus" in the area covered by the five divisions of the Greater Manchester Police which have a high concentration of coloured people. Of 49 "coloured" people, 20 were arrested.

The highest number of charges for "sus" were 69 in "A" division. Fifty-five are known to have been whites, and four were coloured. The police say that the ethnic background of the other 10 cannot be determined on the information available.

Yet even in "A" division, the 69 persons dealt with for a suspected person offence represented only 1.4 per cent of all persons dealt with on arrest.

The total of 168 arrested and charged as suspected persons in the five divisions of Greater Manchester compared with 274 in 1976.

The figures bear out the extent to which the Act depends on use of police of the greatest discretion. The exercise of discretion is a key factor in the National Association of Probation Officers' view that the Act is a "disproportionate use of several different powers, including in some cases, without independent supervision."

The association said that officers to testify to "serious" behaviour on two occasions, which need be no more than a warning. The first test is the police officer's assessment of the person's behaviour. The second is constituted by a "clearly Greater Manchester Police do not fit into the national picture. One of the main conclusions of this legislation is that youths in the major metropolitan areas."

Good race relations 'being hindered'

By Stewart Tendler

The application of the "sus" law by the police, especially in London, is hindering good race relations, both the Commission for Racial Equality and the Runnymede Trust told a Commons committee yesterday.

The subcommittee on race relations and immigration, part of the Commons Select Committee on Home Affairs, is looking at the use of the "sus" law, which is to be found in the Vagrancy Act, 1824. Section IV of the Act creates an offence of "suspected person," and gives the police power to arrest "suspected person, or reputedly suspected person, in public places with intent to commit crimes."

Mr David Lane, chairman of the Commission for Racial Equality, said that there was a widespread feeling of apprehension in the West Indian community about the use of the "sus" law. A teacher in Brixton had told him that many of her teenage pupils were not allowed by their parents to go out at night, even for extra revision, because they might be picked up by the police.

In talking to young blacks, he said, he himself had become aware of the bitterness of the use of this charge.

He could offer no reason why the law was applied more vigorously in London than elsewhere, but nationally the London police area accounted for slightly over half of all "sus" law cases.

Feelings about the use of the law were also experienced

by the Commission for Racial Equality. It said that there was a widespread feeling of apprehension in the West Indian community about the use of the "sus" law. A teacher in Brixton had told him that many of her teenage pupils were not allowed by their parents to go out at night, even for extra revision, because they might be picked up by the police.

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He could offer no reason why the law was applied more vigorously in London than elsewhere, but nationally the London police area accounted for slightly over half of all "sus" law cases.

Feelings about the use of the law were also experienced

"pretty strongly" in the community.

Written evidence said by the commission said high price is being paid in shape of strained relations between ethnic minorities and the police for this use of deterrent, a virtual non-use by some forces raises doubts.

Written evidence said by the Runnymede Trust stated that "it is possible that the use of this charge more generally demonstrates a more generalised fear of the Indian community in London. It was more heavily represented in the number of 'sus' than would be expected the size of that ethnic minority."

Nalco withdraws £2m lent to councils

By David Felton
Labour Reporter

White collar local authority workers yesterday stepped up their industrial action by withdrawing £2m of short-term loans from councils. The loans will have to be repaid to the National and Local Government Officers' Association by the end of next week.

Nalco said that the move was intended to cause financial embarrassment to the 15 councils, not named, who have union loans. Many councils are short of funds at this time of the year because money from central government has been used up and they do not start receiving rates income until next month.

The 15 councils, not named, by the union, negotiated the loans on the money markets and they will have to return to the markets for new loans.

A union spokesman claimed "almost 100 per cent" support from members in backing the protesting and issuing of rate demands. There have also been requests from members to extend the action. Escalation of the dispute, over comparability payments, will be discussed at a meeting of the strike operations committee on Monday.

Known as the "Nalco" action, it is hoped to know by Monday the reaction of air traffic controllers to the call for a four-day strike over the Easter holiday. So far controllers at Luton, Coventry and Bristol have voted for a strike and meetings are to be held in the areas at the weekend. Bells will be held before a decision by union leaders.

The union argues that the joint comparability study shows that average increases of 14 per cent are due, while the employers' interpretation is that an average 8 per cent is indicated by the study.

An early day Commons motion tabled by Mr Norman Hogg, Labour MP for Durham, North-East, "deploring the failure of the employers' side to honour its commitment to local government officers on pay comparability," has been signed by 24 MPs.

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By a Staff Reporter

The police and fire services will have to reequip the communications service the next 10 years to make for an extension of VHF radio services.

The gross cost will be but the Home Office said that some equipment would become obsolete that period and the cost be repayable by local authorities in rentals over a 10-year period.

Ambulance services will be affected by the equipment which has resulted from World Administrative Conference in Geneva autumn. The police and fire services must occupy a part of the frequency spectrum because by 1989 would be severe disruption of vital services.

The rearrangement for the extension of broadcasting services 108 MHz.

'Dangers' of alcohol in pregnancy

By a Staff Reporter

Doctors should warn their women patients of the dangers of drinking alcohol during pregnancy, a report from the National Council on Women published yesterday says.

The report, which is a review of the recent research literature on the subject, says that there is strong evidence to suggest that alcohol consumption during pregnancy can damage the unborn child.

"No one can yet be certain at what stage in development a fetus may be affected. It is therefore important for women to be educated about the potential risk before they are likely to conceive. It is possible that damage could occur even before a woman knows she is pregnant," it says.

It is not known whether there is a "safe" level or pattern of drinking during pregnancy, so it is possible that even limited social drinking by a mother could adversely affect her child, the report says.

It recommends that women should be more fully warned of the dangers of drinking during pregnancy, in the same way as the public is warned about the dangers associated with taking drugs or smoking.

More research is also advocated to discover when a fetus is most vulnerable to alcohol and whether there is a "safe" level of alcohol consumption.

Alcohol and the Unborn Child—the Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (National Council of Women, 36 Lower Ringwood, Basingstoke, Hants, GU24 0AB, £1.25, 25p postage and packing).

Union seeks cancer prevention

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

Prevention of occupational disease would contribute substantially to combating cancer, says a report from the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs, said yesterday.

He was introducing a report on occupational cancer that proposed a shift in emphasis from medical research for a "miracle cure" to a programme of prevention and education.

Mr Jenkins said that there was an industrial epidemic and too many workers were dying; his union had 4,000 compensation cases in the courts. However, cancer cases are a small proportion.

The report urges a complete reform of the safety standards under which industrial materials, and particularly chemical compounds, are tested.

The outlook for cancer patients is hardly better than it was 20 or 30 years ago, it says.

Cancer is overwhelmingly a disease caused by chemical and physical agents in the environment.

The figures for occupationally linked cancers are sparse, but the best available data suggest that they account for between one and two of every five cancer deaths. Regulation of carcinogens (cancer-causing agents) in the workplace must be the first element in a prevention policy, the ASTMS study says.

DPP not to act on BBC's Welsh arson programme

No action against the BBC will be taken by the Director of Public Prosecutions after Wednesday night's controversial *Nationwide* programme about Welsh arsonists.

But an official in the DPP's office said police would investigate the programme's subject matter, which included interviews with a man allegedly involved in the arson campaign against English-owned second homes in North Wales.

The official added that suggestions of similarities with other television programmes about terrorism in Northern Ireland were inaccurate.

Investigations into possible offences in Ireland were made under Section 11 of the Anti-

terrorism Act, but that applied only to Northern Ireland.

There were more protests yesterday about the programme, which was broadcast despite complaints by MPs. Mr Phillip Myers, Chief Constable of North Wales, called it "irresponsible, inaccurate and unhelpful."

John Biggs-Davison, Conservative MP for Epping Forest said: "Terrorism seeks and thrives on publicity. Which matters, to save lives or to enjoy a sensational programme?"

"I'm, after a nasty and unbalanced programme attacking the Army, notably in Ulster, comes another BBC programme publicizing terrorism in Wales."

Ticket of first mate suspended after collision

A merchant seaman, whose ship crashed into a Russian vessel in the Baltic Sea and who was officer of the watch when two other accidents were narrowly averted had his first mate's ticket suspended for four years by a Department of Trade inquiry in Liverpool yesterday.

Captain Charles Deadbetter, the chairman, ruled that Thomas Afful, aged 40, of Upper Mann Street, Liverpool, told the inquiry he planned to appeal against the decision.

Old mortuary overcrowded while new is unopened

From Our Correspondent
Cardiff

Bodies are being stacked on top of one another on the floor of a 100-year-old mortuary in South Wales while a new mortuary half a mile away has been unopened months, according to a report published yesterday by the national Union of Public Employees (Nupel).

It calls for the immediate closure of St Woolos mortuary, at Newport, Gwent. It also calls for the new 24-body mortuary at the Royal Gwent Hospital, Newport, which was still closed.

A Gwent Health Authority official said there were a few items to put into the new mortuary. They hoped the work would be completed by the end of next month.

The authority's district management team will consider the report and Mr Berber's letter on Monday.

A Health and Safety Executive spokesman said that the mortuary came within their jurisdiction. They were studying the report.

from Newport borough council. The report adds that the only drain has to be cleaned out by hand.

Mr Stuart Barber, Gwent Officer for Nupel, who prepared the report, has called for an investigation by the Health and Safety Executive into "what appears to be a total disregard for any coherent safety standards."

He also wants the immediate opening by the Gwent Health Authority of the new 24-body mortuary at the Royal Gwent Hospital, Newport, which was still closed.

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Murder inquiry after false confession

From Our Correspondent
Bradford

A murder inquiry was started by the police in Bradford yesterday after a man had a wound charge dismissed by the city's magistrates because he was said to have made a false confession about an attack on an elderly woman, who had since died. She was stabbed on the doorstep of her home.

James Hunter, aged 21, of Hynes Avenue, Brierley, Bradford, had spent three weeks in custody charged with wounding Mrs Gertrude Grey, aged 72, of Brierley, with intent to do her grievous bodily harm. When he appeared before the magistrates yesterday the police offered no evidence and the case was dismissed.

Mr Richard Odey, for the

prosecution, said grave doubts had arisen about the validity of the evidence against Mr Hunter. Mr Desmond Joyce, for the defence, said Hunter could not have been charged with murder. He added: "I saw him before he was charged with wounding and he admitted the stabbing immediately. He gave explicit details. I did not know then the extent of his state of mind."

"Later, however, I doubted if it was true, and to their credit, so did the police officers working on the case. Thanks to the police officers, sufficient evidence was obtained to secure his release. Because of the open mind and diligence of the officers Mr Hunter walks out of here a free man."

Outside the court Mr Hunter's mother said she appreciated the

efforts of the police and her solicitor to clear her son. She added: "It has been a rough time for us but I am pleased it has worked out this way."

Later Det Supt John Stainthorpe, who took charge of the murder inquiry, said that because of the false confession the investigation had suffered a setback, but he was sure it would be overcome.

The thoroughness of police inquiries had established that the confession was untrue and the question of prosecuting Mr Hunter for wasting police time would be considered.

He described the murder as brutal and motiveless. He renewed appeals for information about a man aged between 22 and 35 in dark clothing seen running from the direction of Mrs Grey's home at the time.

Computer finds deserter after 26 years

Mr Thomas Malone, aged 47, of Longwood Walk, 61 Grafton, deserted from the now disbanded Royal Ulster Rifles during leave from Colchester barracks 26 years ago. His past caught up with him recently when, after he had committed a minor offence, the national police computer listed him as a deserter.

Mr Malone went to the King's Division depot at Strensall, near York, yesterday and signed a confession. No action will be taken against him.

BLIND AND ALL ALONE

Can you imagine what it is like to be blind? The world is a very different place to the one you know. You can't see the things that are so familiar to you. You can't see the faces of your friends and family. You can't see the beauty of the world around you. You can't see the things that make life so interesting. You can't see the things that make life so meaningful. You can't see the things that make life so precious. You can't see the things that make life so beautiful. You can't see the things that make life so wonderful. You can't see the things that make life so great. You can't see the things that make life so perfect. You can't see the things that make life so complete. You can't see the things that make life so whole. You can't see the things that make life so full. You can't see the things that make life so rich. You can't see the things that make life so deep. You can't see the things that make life so broad. You can't see the things that make life so high. 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This publication with humanitarian means is to comply with the demands of the group E.R.P. in El Salvador in order to gain the release of one of its hostages.

The People's Revolutionary Army (ERP) of El Salvador to all the nations of the world

EL SALVADOR IN STRUGGLE

The Salvadoran people are at present facing a crucial moment in history. In search of their final liberation, the struggle that is now taking place in our country is the expression of the people's right to the author of its own destiny. For this reason, we must not be deterred by the manipulation, the traps and even the direct intervention of American imperialism, declared enemy of a country's right to self-determination and a firm ally of the oppressors of the world.

It is in this general context that our country, El Salvador, has suffered almost half a century of criminal and pitiless repression at the hands of a monstrous military dictatorship, which has protected the interests of the oligarchy and of the Salvadoran oligarchy, while keeping our people submerged in a terrible drama of poverty, hunger, rape, and death. The country has been the theatre of slavery, mutilation, lack of housing, infant mortality, etc., in the world.

The existence of this situation of permanent oppression has made the most radical forces become unyielding in its effort to achieve an alternative which offers real liberty, democracy and self-determination, and to this end has developed its own means, evolving its popular organizations and strengthening its armed revolutionary movement.

The struggle, rapidly accelerating in this most recent phase, has provoked setbacks and superficial changes in government policy, in which American imperialism has been the principal promoter.

It was in this situation that our country, El Salvador, has suffered almost half a century of criminal and pitiless repression at the hands of a monstrous military dictatorship, which has protected the interests of the oligarchy and of the Salvadoran oligarchy, while keeping our people submerged in a terrible drama of poverty, hunger, rape, and death. The country has been the theatre of slavery, mutilation, lack of housing, infant mortality, etc., in the world.

This coup, promoted by the Americans did not signify, nor could it signify, the solution to the problems of our people, since the intent was to impede construction by the people of a true democratic and popular alternative.

The perseverance and combativity of the Salvadoran people in the struggle for the honesty of the democratic sectors who had naively believed in the viability of structural reforms in the society, made it impossible to consolidate the initial attempt at forming a governing junta, being led to a policy of repression against the people.

Therefore it is clear that the more reactionary forces of the oligarchy, imperialism and the majority of the army are in agreement over one thing: to subjugate the people, to destroy its organizations, since this is the fundamental prerequisite for any solution in their terms.

The Christian Democrats have been unmasked. The case of Mr. Duesch, a member of the oligarchy, is a rabid anti-communist, enemy of popular participation, who prefers to align himself with the oligarchy than to accept that this country has long since transcended the level of political conservatism and will not accept the false guidance of petty politicians.

The maintenance of power of the oligarchy, imperialism, or whatever other centrist formula, is a result of the need of the most murderous and reactionary sectors of the army, who are united in power, because as such they would become isolated on an international level, and that would obstruct the American plans for military, economic and political intervention, and running the risk of being condemned by all of the democratic governments and nations of the world.

This is the reason why the government finds it necessary to give the appearance of being centrist, facilitating a deep and criminal repression against any and all groups, the result of confrontations between rightist and leftist groups.

For this reason, all nations of the world should be aware of what is really happening in our country, and of who is really governing El Salvador.

REPRESSION AT PRESENT: 500 DEATHS IN FIVE MONTHS

The space we have here would not be adequate to write about the bloody repression which the Salvadoran people are suffering at this moment. Not one of the campaigns of repression carried out by the government of General Romero or General Molina, before the coup of the 15th of October 1979, can compare with the scope of the one being waged at the present time.

The number of deaths since the 15th of October has exceeded 500 in less than five months. The persecution and assassination of leaders and members of popular organizations is a daily occurrence.

Usually, and to some extent, the acts of repression that happen in the city of San Salvador become known internationally, because the international press is able to cover the events there to some degree, as was the case on the 22nd of January, the 12th of February, and other days, when demonstrators were massacred in the city of San Salvador.

But the repression in rural areas of our country has not been sufficiently publicized. In Aguilar, Chalatenango, Cuscatlan, San Vicente, Usulután, La Paz, La Unión, Morazan, La Libertad, and in many towns and villages of every part of the country, the permanent effects of a war against every residue of popular organization are being suffered.

To give a general idea of the scope of the most significant massacres, since the 15th of October, in which even the reactionary army has had to officially recognize large numbers of deaths, we present the following (which are even higher):

October 16th, 1979, repression against the Christian Democratic Party, more than 35 dead.

October 17th, 1979, San Marcos and Bosques del Mazazo, more than 40 dead.

October 29th, 1979, repression of a demonstration of the Popular Leagues of the 28th of February (LP-28), 75 dead.

October 31st, 1979, massacre of a demonstration of the Popular Revolutionary Bloc (ERP), more than 40 dead.

December 12th, 1979, in Berlin, San Salvador, the evacuation of a hacienda occupied by the Popular Leagues of the 28th of February (LP-28), 100 dead.

January 22nd, 1980, a demonstration of the Christian Democratic Party, more than 40 dead.

February 12th, 1980, the local of the Christian Democratic Party, occupied by the Popular Leagues of the 28th of February (LP-28), is disappeared, and a demonstration of the Popular Revolutionary Bloc (ERP) is repressed.

In the same month of February, the churches occupied by the ERP, in the towns of San Miguel and Santa Rosa de Lima, were disappeared, resulting in more than 15 dead, executed in the inner court of the churches after having been captured alive.

And one last occurrence, to mention the most recent: on the 28th of February 1980 in Santo Domingo de Guzman in Sonoma where the official version claims that our organization, the People's Revolutionary Army (ERP), suffered 15 deaths in a supposed confrontation.

While this army exists in our country, a faithful servant of imperialism, and while the oligarchy holds the economic power, there will be neither peace nor justice for our nation, and any government that does not leave the popular sectors as the fundamental base for military, economic and political change, is a government condemned sooner or later to defeat.

We announce to the democratic movement all over the world that our nation is the victim of a monstrous rightist military force, associated with a group which is the enemy of the people.

In all of these incidents hundreds of people have disappeared, captured by the security forces. Later, their bodies have appeared gruesomely and psychopathically dismembered.

In rural areas of different zones of the country there is a permanent state of war against the people, and thousands of peasants' families are persecuted and besieged by the National Guard and the army.

Now, the sectors of the murderous and reactionary right wing, attribute all the problems to communist subversion. They say that everything that is happening is part of a plan carefully prepared by International Communism. But we who they call communists, we are not communists.

It is not always known exactly how many deaths are produced by this repression in rural areas, because military censors impede access to these zones.

The cruelty with which the forces of repression act is terrifying, and as a small example we refer to the evacuation of the local of the Christian Democratic Party, occupied peacefully by the Popular Leagues of the 28th of February (LP-28).

The repressive forces of the National Guard and the army, took the occupants by surprise, entering from the rear of the houses, and then they cut down remaining occupants, along with the hostages. A member of the National Police forced a minute of silence to take place, under the muzzle of his G-3 rifle to her genital while beating her and insulting her.

After forcing them to lie down on the floor they proceeded to ask each one responsible for the occupation. The leaders of the militias of the LP-28, Victor Quinones, and Jaime Edgardo López, were killed, raising their heads and saying that it was they. An agent of the National Police then entered the room and said to the people: "You are not just now beginning, but the war against the people began a long time ago, and that for that reason the only path open to the people is to demand that all those who are responsible be killed, comrades Victor Quinones and Jaime Edgardo López."

This is only a small account of the scope of the cruelty and savagery of the Salvadoran Military Forces, and these repressive incidents, just as the betrayal of comrades, are now being repeated in the city of San Salvador. This is the peace, the reforms, the democracy, and the liberty that the American oligarchy and imperialism want to impose upon us. This is the peace of death which, confused or mutilated, is now being imposed on the people of El Salvador.

The Democratic Representative Republic they refer to is one of fifty years of dictatorship, and the abolition of the rights of the majority of our people to blood and bullets.

The Reactionary Right has the effrontery to refer to the lazy female trash of the Feminine Front, and the People's Front, in fact they are nothing more than the wives of ambitious opportunistic bourgeois and petty bourgeois groups.

On behalf of all our nation we call on numerous international organizations of the United Nations and the Organization of American States to visit our country and prove what we are saying. Many foreign reporters have been victimized, and at times almost killed, by the forces of repression.

We also call on the International Press to visit our country in order to witness the cruel repression that thousands of peasant families are suffering and the way the months will suffer as well from a terrible famine, because this repression has impeded the harvest and cultivation of their tiny parcels of land, from which they are to survive the rest of the year.

IS CIVIL WAR A DANGER FOR OUR PEOPLE?

The argument about violence and the evils of war which for the poor and exploited have always existed is now being used to condemn the just and heroic struggle with which the Salvadoran people have begun to defend themselves against so many years of oppression.

What has in fact happened is that this organized action on the part of the people has destabilized the economic situation to such a degree that the oligarchy is destroying everything by withdrawing all the money from the country, closing down factories, selling property and creating economic bankruptcy.

But it should be asked whether the solution is to accept the peace of exploitation and death that they wish to impose by eliminating the popular organizations.

There is only one solution: that the people take in their hands what legitimately belongs to them, the huge plantations of coffee, sugar, cotton; the huge factories, the banks and all the properties of the oligarchy; this is the definitive solution and no other that would keep as subjugated and permanent repression is acceptable.

Now, the sectors of the murderous and reactionary right wing, attribute all the problems to communist subversion. They say that everything that is happening is part of a plan carefully prepared by International Communism. But we who they call communists, we are not communists.

It is not always known exactly how many deaths are produced by this repression in rural areas, because military censors impede access to these zones.

The cruelty with which the forces of repression act is terrifying, and as a small example we refer to the evacuation of the local of the Christian Democratic Party, occupied peacefully by the Popular Leagues of the 28th of February (LP-28).

The repressive forces of the National Guard and the army, took the occupants by surprise, entering from the rear of the houses, and then they cut down remaining occupants, along with the hostages. A member of the National Police forced a minute of silence to take place, under the muzzle of his G-3 rifle to her genital while beating her and insulting her.

After forcing them to lie down on the floor they proceeded to ask each one responsible for the occupation. The leaders of the militias of the LP-28, Victor Quinones, and Jaime Edgardo López, were killed, raising their heads and saying that it was they. An agent of the National Police then entered the room and said to the people: "You are not just now beginning, but the war against the people began a long time ago, and that for that reason the only path open to the people is to demand that all those who are responsible be killed, comrades Victor Quinones and Jaime Edgardo López."

This is only a small account of the scope of the cruelty and savagery of the Salvadoran Military Forces, and these repressive incidents, just as the betrayal of comrades, are now being repeated in the city of San Salvador. This is the peace, the reforms, the democracy, and the liberty that the American oligarchy and imperialism want to impose upon us. This is the peace of death which, confused or mutilated, is now being imposed on the people of El Salvador.

The Democratic Representative Republic they refer to is one of fifty years of dictatorship, and the abolition of the rights of the majority of our people to blood and bullets.

The Reactionary Right has the effrontery to refer to the lazy female trash of the Feminine Front, and the People's Front, in fact they are nothing more than the wives of ambitious opportunistic bourgeois and petty bourgeois groups.

On behalf of all our nation we call on numerous international organizations of the United Nations and the Organization of American States to visit our country and prove what we are saying. Many foreign reporters have been victimized, and at times almost killed, by the forces of repression.

We also call on the International Press to visit our country in order to witness the cruel repression that thousands of peasant families are suffering and the way the months will suffer as well from a terrible famine, because this repression has impeded the harvest and cultivation of their tiny parcels of land, from which they are to survive the rest of the year.

IS CIVIL WAR A DANGER FOR OUR PEOPLE?

The argument about violence and the evils of war which for the poor and exploited have always existed is now being used to condemn the just and heroic struggle with which the Salvadoran people have begun to defend themselves against so many years of oppression.

What has in fact happened is that this organized action on the part of the people has destabilized the economic situation to such a degree that the oligarchy is destroying everything by withdrawing all the money from the country, closing down factories, selling property and creating economic bankruptcy.

But it should be asked whether the solution is to accept the peace of exploitation and death that they wish to impose by eliminating the popular organizations.

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INSURRECTIONAL MILITARY ACTIVITY OF THE PEOPLE'S REVOLUTIONARY ARMY—ERP—

The People's Revolutionary Army (ERP) constitutes part of the population that are struggling for the liberation of our country, and that have resolutely taken up the arms of legitimate defence against the oppressors of our people.

In recent months our military forces have intensified their actions, taking towns, villages, cañons, suburbs and sections of the country, and have been successful in the tasks of insurrection.

More than 75 military operations have been carried out in recent days, and dozens of persons responsible for repression in the country have been executed; patrols of the National Guard, the National Police and the Treasury Department, are of American nationality.

Heavy artillery, helicopters, small and large tanks with a heavy supply of munitions have arrived in the country from the United States and Israel.

The American plan to subjugate our country consists of the establishment of a military occupation of our country, using the armies of Honduras and Guatemala. At the same time, the intervention of the United States, who are in power, they hope that the government will back them in the intervention.

In recent days a military mission from Venezuela, headed by General Dario Murillo Andrade visited our country and met with the Minister of Defence, who is considered by the people to be responsible for the majority of massacres in the country since the 15th of October 1979.

The American Government is also using the Costa Rica Government to help look for political prisoners in the Salvadoran Government.

This whole plan is fundamental in terms of American foreign policy, since American imperialism seeks to avoid international support for its intervention, in a vast repressive plan for our country in which the intention is to systematize the repression of more than 30,000 people.

We call upon all conscientious Americans who want an end to war, and we call upon our organizations that are in favour of peace and self-determination, to struggle against these criminal interventionist plans in our country.

We call upon the people and democratic forces of Venezuela to stop the interventionist policy of their government, and not allow the government of COPELA to lend support to a government which is repressive and anti-popular, such as exists in our country.

The Christian Democratic Party in our country is a group of corrupt petty politicians that does not have the least amount of popular support, the proof of which is demonstrated by a recent meeting that they announced, which was supposedly to discuss more than 100,000 persons. Even with all the official guarantees and an immense propaganda campaign of 1,000 people showed up of whom 90 per cent were peasants who belonged to another organization, and whose leaders later made it clear that they did not support the Christian Democrats, and that they had come to the meeting to participate in the meeting, Mr. Duarte, leader of the Christian Democratic Party, said that the failure was due to public opinion of the ultra left and the ultra right.

On the other hand, there was a demonstration on January 22nd of the Union of Popular Forces (UPF), which had 300,000 people participated in this demonstration, and the procession covered approximately 44 to 5 km in length.

This is an incident without precedent in the history of our country. Never before has there been a concentration of people of this magnitude. Even so, thousands of demonstrators were not able to attend because they had been "detained" or captured by military patrols in the outskirts of their villages. Helicopters belonging to the government flew over the demonstration, spraying people with insecticide, later the National Guard and National Police attacked the crowd, leaving more than 40 dead.

In spite of all this the people were not afraid that day, and the following day, 23rd, another demonstration filled the streets, above 50,000 people, members of the ERP, the LP-28 and the MFP, gathered to bury some of the casualties of the previous day's massacre.

It is clear, then, that political and military support given to a government which denies the participation of the people and popular organizations will not be support for a process of war against any insurrectional group.

are fully disposed to participate; and also the progressive elements of the clergy, all social and political sectors and others who identify with the basic programme. The fundamental element in this alliance is full respect for the different ideologies or tendencies, and common accord concerning the definition of a wide popular democratic front based on the common objective of a revolution which is anti-oligarchic and anti-imperialist.

THE GOVERNMENTAL PROGRAMME PROPOSED BY THE PEOPLE'S REVOLUTIONARY ARMY—ERP—

The changes implemented by the Popular Democratic Government will embrace every aspect of the social, political and economic structure.

Economic Considerations:—Expropriation without right to indemnification of all properties in the hands of the oligarchy in the different economic levels, and their subsequent redistribution as collective, communal or state properties. This measure infers the realization of Agrarian, Industrial and Urban Reforms, without affecting the small and middle businessman to whom incentives and support are offered.

Expropriation of all Imperialist enterprises and the abandonment of all treaties which subject our country to economic dependence.

Management of the national economy on the basis of a system of national planning which embraces all branches, sectors and regions.

Organization of an economic system based on collective property, communal property, state property and private holdings of small and medium size.

Nationalization of the export of coffee, cotton, sugar and other products.

Nationalization of the financial and banking system.

Nationalization of the production of electrical energy and the refinement of petroleum.

Creation of a national transit system, based on cooperatives, small businessmen, and a state transit corporation. Nationalization of the import of transit vehicles and their repair parts.

Social Considerations:—Socialization of medicine, including free medical attention and free medicine for all Salvadorans, and the implementation of an intensive programme of preventive medicine.

Socialization of education, making it free for all people at all levels.

Development of massive programmes for the construction of rural and urban housing, and the establishment of plans to contain immigration.

Development of a massive literacy programme.

Political Considerations:—Creation of a new army with popular orientation and profound revolutionary conviction, composed of: a) The popular insurrectional forces. b) The patriotic military sectors of the National Army disposed to defend revolutionary conquests with a new military doctrine, based on patriotic and social interest.

TO ALL NATIONS OF THE WORLD

We call on all nations of the world to offer fraternal and military solidarity to the people of El Salvador, who in this moment are living through a period of heroic and decisive struggle.

We would also like to send fraternal revolutionary greetings from the trenches of combat of our homeland to all the nations of Asia, Africa and Latin America, who are fighting against imperialism, each in its own way.

UNITY OF THE REVOLUTIONARY FORCES, KEY TO POPULAR VICTORY

The history of our country presents in this moment for her revolutionary forces an enormous commitment to the future and the liberation of our people.

Any effort in this struggle would be in vain if it were not directed towards a real, legitimate process of revolutionary unity. This necessitates the full and total concurrence of all forces which in these past few years have consolidated their structures, political or military, in the revolutionary struggle.

We firmly believe in the necessity of unity, and we are also opposed to expressions of immaturity and subjectivity that could obstruct a real process of unification.

In the struggle for unity our organization has, in these past few years, known how to maintain a clear position in respect to the other organizations, and in this regard we have made an effort to explain to them the essence of our position, without underrating or discrediting the other forces. We believe that it is the duty of the organized sectors of the population to demand of their revolutionary forces a level of conduct which is increasingly mature; that they inspire confidence in the Salvadoran people, and in those nations which offer us their solidarity; so that in our country there exists a revolutionary movement of the people, ready to assume the enormous historical responsibility of guiding our people to victory. This is the task that the most thorough prepared elements among the organized Salvadorans must perform at this moment, so that together they can lead the future vanguard of the Salvadoran Revolution.

We greet the heroic comrades of the Popular Forces of Liberation—FPL—Farabundo Martí; and we applaud the maturity and profound conviction they are showing in this moment; likewise we greet the comrades of the Salvadoran Communist Party, PCS, who for a long time have tried to promote a unified process.

We salute the growing force of the comrades of the Revolutionary Party of Central American Workers—PCAR— who are also great comrades of the National Resistance (RN).

Finally, to the Salvadoran people and to all nations of the world, we reaffirm OUR UN-ALTERABLE POSITION: WE ARE READY TO FIGHT FOR THE REVOLUTION IN OUR COUNTRY UNTIL:

CONQUEST OR DEATH

LONG LIVE THE UNITY OF ALL THE POPULAR FORCES !!

LONG LIVE THE PEOPLE'S REVOLUTIONARY ARMY—ERP !!

LONG LIVE THE CENTRAL FRONT "COMMANDER RAFAEL ANTONIO ARCE ZABLAH" !!

LONG LIVE THE EASTERN FRONT "COMMANDER MIGUEL ANGEL GAMEZ" !!

LONG LIVE THE WESTERN FRONT "COMMANDER EDGAR ANTONIO SALMERON" !!

LONG LIVE THE EAST-CENTRAL FRONT "COMMANDER LEONEL AREVALO MARTINEZ" !!

GLORY TO THE HEROES OF THE NATION FALLEN IN THE STRUGGLE TO WIN OUR FREEDOM !!

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS OF THE PEOPLE'S REVOLUTIONARY ARMY (ERP)

Commander JOAQUIN VILLALOBOS HUEZO
Commander in Chief
Commander JORGE ANTONIO MELENDEZ
2nd in Command
Commander ANA SONIA MEDINA
Commander JUAN RAMON MEDRANO
Commander OCTAVIO PONCE

EST EUROPE

etrial of murderer ouses passions on bolition of guillotine

Charles Hargrove
March 13

retrial this week before
Toulouse assizes of the only
man under sentence
death in French prisons has
again brought the oppo-
s and supporters of capital
sent into public conflict.
hen the court passed a
nce of life imprisonment
M. Norbert Garceau, they
ed their passions in a burst
phrases for the defence or
shots of protest against
jury and threats to do
ce themselves.
fixer, aged 53, M. Garceau
been arrested for repeating
me he had committed more
25 years ago. He was then
nned to life imprisonment
he assizes of the Hautes
nees, for killing and
ing a girl of 15.
thing in M. Garceau's life
character, investigated time
again by psychiatrists and
its, pointed to the patho-
al criminal. A rather
ved individual, he suffered
no psychic disorders or
bral damage, but he had
culty in controlling his
al urges. However, he was
sex maniac, in the medical
of the term, one of the
its testified.
st as he had been a good
r he served as a quarter-
er in the navy in Indo-
—and a good worker, he
ed out to be a model
er during the 20 years he
ed of his sentence.

rieved in 1960 for good
uty, he got a job as a fixer,
ed, and had a child. "He
good for my daughter and
if, an excellent husband,
either drank nor smoked,
to do odd jobs about the
e," his wife wrote in a
r to the court. He was in-
regarded as a model of
rehabilitation by the pro-
a officers who looked after
t in January 1978, he
ered again, this time a
r worker of 28, mother of
children, who refused his
ces. Tried a second time
he Tarn assizes in June,
he was sentenced to death.
e applause of the public.

Paris court of appeal
ed the verdict on some
eality last October, and
ed a retrial. That is why
r Garceau was in court
murder for the third time
s life.
e psychiatrists were
usly baffled by the case,
found the beginning of an
nation in his experiences
rocities during the war in
China.
t branded me forever", he
the court. "I changed my
cter." At this, the public
utor, M. Raymond Diers,
imed: "If all the men who
fought in Indo-China,
is or elsewhere, and heard
ries of victims behaved in
way, where would we be?"
e accused, he said, was a
ned offender: he had pre-
tated his second crime.

russels marks time EEC budget war

Michael Hornsby
March 13

Responding to the latest
moves in the dispute
Britain's contribution to
EEC budget, the European
mission said today that it
not clear whether it would
useful to submit a formal
sal for a solution before
next European summit on
h 31 and April 1 in
els.
e French Government yes-
y declared that unless
a proposal was forth-
ing in time to allow full
aratory discussions of all
ssues, France would refuse
onsider at the Brussels
ut any scheme for reduc-
tion. The British budget
it is forecast to reach
0m this year.
e Commission spokesman
tained that it was "not the
practice" to make a
proposal at this stage.
dispute of this kind. The
al procedure, he said,
d be for a decision of
iple to be taken by heads
vernment, after which the
mission could put forward
ic proposals to give effect

e Commission submitted a
r to the Council of Mini-
last month suggesting that
cial credit line should be
ed in the EEC budget
gh which to channel extra
nditure in Britain. It iden-
transport infrastructure,
coal industry, urban re-
l and Northern Ireland as
most suitable areas for such
nditure.

iton appointed UN panel on te abductions

Our Correspondent
ra, March 13

court Colville of Culross,
British delegate to the
d Nations Human Rights
ission, has been appointed
estern member of the five-
group that will investigate
of people who have dis-
ed in state-organized ab-
sions.

a method of disposing of
al opponents has been
in many countries in re-
ears.
other members are Señor
Costa Rica), Mr Kwadwo
kye (Ghana), Mr Muham-
al-Jabiri (Iraq) and Mr
oserski (Yugoslavia). The
will have its first meet-
re in May.

So far, however, the Com-
mission has deliberately re-
frained from suggesting the
amount by which it thinks
Britain's budget deficit should
be cut back. This is because
Mr Roy Jenkins, the Com-
mission's President, knows it
would be impossible to get
agreement from his colleagues
on anything like what Mrs
Margaret Thatcher, the British
Prime Minister, is demanding,
and he does not want to limit
her room for manoeuvre at the
summit.
The Commission today
reserved its right to submit
new ideas and proposals
before the summit, but gave no
indication what form these
might take. At most, it
appears, the Commission might
draw up a list of specific EEC
spending projects in Britain,
with estimates of their cost.
French officials insist that
any solution to the budget dis-
pute must be linked to counter-
concessions from Britain in
other areas—particularly on
France's demands for protection
of its sheepfarmers, the share-
out of EEC fish catches, and
this year's Community farm
price settlement, where France
is seeking an overall price
increase of at least 4 to 5 per
cent.

Hitherto, Mrs Thatcher has
always resisted this approach,
arguing that Britain's budget
deficit is a clear injustice which
deserves redress on its own
merits. The French insist, how-
ever, that Britain cannot expect
other member states to make
a financial sacrifice without
something in return.

Euro-Parliament starts to feel the pinch

From David Wood
Strasbourg, March 13

Mme Simone Veil, President
of the European Parliament,
and the managerial bureau
were brought face to face today
with the financial realities of
the deadlock over the commu-
nity budget for 1980.

In a private meeting they had
to consider cancelling the
special plenary session in Stras-
bourg, arranged for March 24 to
26, to build up public pressure
on the Council of Ministers on
both the budget and the con-
tainment of expenditure on the
common agricultural policy.

There is no money available
to pay for the extra plenary
session. On a vote of five to
four a proposal to cancel the
session was defeated in the
Parliamentary report, page 11

M Chirac defends final plan for les Halles

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, March 13

A scale model of the final
plan for the site of les Halles,
the old central markets of Paris,
which proved much easier to
demolish nine years ago than to
replace was unveiled by M
Jacques Chirac, the Mayor of
Paris this week at the city hall.
The project is to be com-
pleted by 1984, although he did
not specify whether by that
date, the trees of the garden
which are its dominant charac-
teristic will be as fully grown
as they appear on the model.
The advantage of the "botanical
facades" of trilled creepers,
which are a feature of the
"vegetal architecture" as its
designers call it, is that it
grows quickly, he told a recent
press conference.

"It will be magnificent," M
Chirac said enthusiastically.
The garden would be neither
English nor French. The "veg-
etal architecture" gave the pathy
of the garden the appearance of
streets, so that it would be both
an open space and a continuous
urban in a poetic form of the city.

Behind the walls of vegeta-
tion, the space available would
be laid out to respond to the
different needs of the popula-
tion. For children there would
be a play area of about 5,000
square yards.

The diversity of the design
carried out by Louis Arretche,
the architect, Francois Lalouze,
the sculptor, would not destroy
the harmony of the whole
thanks to the architectural
greenery bordering the walls.

Panoramic view of a scale model of the final plan for the site of les Halles in Paris.

Instead of the bold modern
buildings of steel and glass by
the Spanish architect Bofill,
which was to have been put up
inconspicuously close to the
church of St. Eustache, and
which M Chirac turned down
soon after his election as
mayor, a block of flats will be
built with terraces fitting

innocently and inconspicuously
into the perspective of the old
houses, further to the east.
It will conceal the monstrous
power plant erected along the
rue Rambuteau behind it to
provide heating and air condi-
tioning for the various under-
ground installations, the com-
mercial forum, sports centre,

aquarium, and billiards
academy.
One of its specialties of the
new and definitive plan are the
cavities of steel and glass
"umbrellas" to the north and
east of the forum. They are
light and airy structures which
will house shops and municipal
services.

M Chirac has not given his
final approval to the plans for
the 330-room hotel, office and
residential block to the south-
he did not want, he said, a
"set of fortifications" domi-
nating the open space. At all
events, they will be of the same
height as the present buildings
in the area.

President of troubled university resigns

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, March 13

Vincennes University, or
Paris VIII as it is called since
the reform of higher education
voted under pressure of the
students' and workers' revolt in
May 1968, is once again plunged
into crisis.

The only open university in
France has known many other
crises in its short but troubled
history of strikes, clashes
between right and left-wing
activists, occupation of pro-
cesses, controversial courses in
sexology, harbouring of rava-
nny minors, and open peddling
of drugs on the campus.

This is not to mention the
plan of the Minister for Uni-
versities to banish it to new
premises at Saint-Denis, a
dreary suburb north of Paris.
M Pierre Merlin, the presi-
dent of the university since
1976, announced his resignation
on television last night.

Two days earlier he had been
kidnapped and held for nearly
15 hours in his office at the
university by a group of ex-
tremists, students, professors,
and even some members of the
governing body in an attempt
to compel him to resign.

His decision to resign was
taken after the majority of the
members of the university coun-
cil had handed in their resig-
nation.



Glenfiddich
Our label says it all.

WEST EUROPE

Bretons cite 'shadow of Kabul'

Dead rats and manure in nuclear protest

From Ian Murray

Plogoff, Brittany, March 13
Three dead rats hung by their tails from a crude wooden cross nailed to the top of a telephone pole. Even the gale force winds blowing in from the Atlantic were not enough to carry away the heavy stench of farmyard manure.

A young soldier clung to the telephone pole making desperate lunges with one freezing hand at the wooden cross and the rats. His officer shouted encouragement: "Just think, today they have remembered to bring us something to eat."

It was half past six this morning, and daylight was just beginning to lighten the heavy storm clouds. For the past six weeks the soldiers and riot police have been facing every morning the unpleasant task of cleaning up the filthy garbage-strewn lay-by at Trogor, just outside Plogoff, so that a mobile public inquiry can be held.

The inquiry is into the building of what is planned to be the biggest nuclear power station in France on the granite cliffs, two miles east of the Pointe-du-Raz, the westernmost tip of mainland France.

This area is the ancient kingdom of Cornouaille (Cornouailles, with an s, is the French name for Cornwall), and there are enough wind-swept heaths of yellow broom, narrow lanes, and stone walls to make the most homesick denizen of Sennen feel at home.

The project to build a 5,200 megawatt nuclear power station here is having the same antagonistic reception as might be expected were a similar plan suggested for the cliffs two miles from Land's End.

M Jean-Marie Kerloch, the mayor of Plogoff, has refused permission for the inquiry documents to be kept in his town hall, which is why the inquiry has to be held in two small vans on a lay-by on the main road leading out of town. An ugly modern sheepfold has been built near the cliffs on the very spot where the planned nuclear boiler is to be put up. Lambs gambol inside unaware that the court at Quimper has ordered the building to be pulled down because it has not received planning permission.

Despite their fight, the 2,300 townsfolk of Plogoff seem resigned to the prospect that the nuclear power station will be given the planning permission their sheepfold failed to win. This makes them too angry to give evidence to the inquiry and explains the bitterness of their arguments, expressed in sign language on roads, buildings and hillsides.

On the electricity transformer station in the centre of the town is the message that sums up their thoughts: "The shadow of Kabul falls on Plogoff." In other words, the proudly independent Bretons assert that the foreign power which has its capital in Paris has sent soldiers to subjugate the people and the countryside.

Other signs say: "Plogoff will live", in yard-high letters on the roadway, or, "Sheep (moutons) will conquer neutrals".

But generally, there is an air of hopelessness about the struggle despite the hundreds of letters of support pouring into the town hall and the presence of anti-nuclear campaigners from all over Europe.

Together they mount the daily ritual of protest. Each night the lay-by is fouled. Each morning it is cleared so that the vans can be parked. During the day, a few come to stare venomously at the police and soldiers. Then, in the evening a large crowd gathers to hurl insults and stones at the departing vans.

Usually tear gas comes back and tonight was no exception. Over the brow of the hill on the town side of the lay-by came the sound of marching feet and the tips of four tricolor flags were seen flying high in the wind.

The soldiers and riot police drawn up across the road with their shields at the ready stiffened as they waited for the attack. It was not what they expected.

The marching feet were tape-recordings and a loudspeaker van soon switched to the Marseillaise.

The flags were being carried by a row of veterans with their medals clanking on their chests, and middle-aged women in scarves and cloaks.

They marched straight up to the riot shields and one baton smashed down onto an old fist clasped round a flagstaff drawing blood.

One of the women shouted: "They were fighting for you in Normandy and Algiers when you were in your cradles." The soldiers' ranks parted and the veterans marched through.

A second line of soldiers with grenades ready to fire then confronted them. "That's right, shoot at your country's flag," said the wounded standard-bearer. The second line fell back and the veterans of Plogoff marched to the vans and sang the Marseillaise.

Tomorrow is the last day of the inquiry and the final demonstration is to be preceded by a total closure throughout the day of everything in the town.

OVERSEAS

Afghanistan minister in Moscow for talks

From Michael Binyon

Moscow, March 13
Mr. Shah Muhammad Dost, the Afghan Foreign Minister, arrived in Moscow today for talks with the Soviet leaders at their invitation. The Soviet news agency Tass announced. It did not say how long he would be staying.

Mr. Dost has just sent a letter to the United Nations Secretary General complaining that the "continuing intervention" in Afghanistan's internal affairs by the United States, China and Pakistan, created a "serious threat to peace and stability in the region and throughout the world."

He said his country wanted good relations with Pakistan, and asserted that Afghanistan was pursuing a policy of peace and non-alignment. The development of the current crisis and the various proposals put forward by the Soviet Union and the West for defusing it will undoubtedly form the substance of Mr. Dost's talks with the Russians.

Meanwhile, Tass today reported from Kabul that President Karmal of Afghanistan had received a delegation of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers, representing eight Communist countries, and told them how his regime was respecting human rights. Aid offer renewed: The United States has renewed its offer of \$200m (about £90m) in economic aid to Pakistan, \$100m this year and the same next year. The Pakistanis rejected another \$200m in military aid and rejected it disdainfully (our Washington Correspondent writes).

In a statement to Congress yesterday by Mr. Warren Christopher, Deputy Secretary of State, and in messages delivered to President Zia in Islamabad, the Americans have made it clear that the two programmes were separate and that economic aid was not conditional on acceptance of military assistance. The third part of American policy towards Pakistan after the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, the reaffirmation of the 1959 security agreement between the two countries, is still valid.

The Pakistanis rejected the \$200m in military aid as insufficient. Similar views: Lord Carrington, the British Foreign Secretary, discussed the Afghan situation today and reported that they were in broad agreement with the West. "I do not think the analysis of our two countries is too far apart... broadly speaking we have the same conclusions," he said later in Brasov.

Reuter.
Leading article, page 17



Mr John Lambert, one of the American hostages held in Tehran since November, being examined recently by a doctor.

Iran polls today will decide fate of hostages

Tehran, March 13.—Iranians vote tomorrow in the first round of elections for a Parliament whose most pressing task will be to set terms for the release of the 49 American Embassy hostages. The task has been delegated to the 270-seat Majlis by Ayatollah Khomeini.

There will be two-stage polling to decide which of two power-blocks emerges the stronger, and therefore able to impose its ideas on conditions for freeing the hostages.

On the one hand is the proclerical Islamic Republican Party (IRP), expected to support the radical Muslim students in their demand for the extradition of the deposed Shah as the price for the hostages' freedom. Opposing them are supporters of President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, who has taken a more conciliatory line. The President has said that the cases of the Shah and of the hostages are two separate issues. He has demanded, as his main condition for the hostages' release, an admission by Washington of past interference in Iranian affairs.

The Shah, now living in Panama, is expected to undergo

an operation soon for the removal of his spleen which his doctor says is probably affected by a tumour.

Although Mr Bani-Sadr has no formal party, his loose coalition of supporters and the more tightly knit IRP are expected to benefit from the two-stage election at the expense of smaller groupings from both the left and right wings.

The poll is based on an absolute majority system. Candidates obtaining 50 per cent plus one of the votes on the first round are automatically elected while those gaining between 40 and 50 per cent of the poll go through to the second round.

The left-wing groups are fighting elections for the first time since the 1953 coup which overthrew the government of Muhammad Mossadeq and restored the Shah to power. They have protested bitterly against the two-stage system. But although both President Bani-Sadr and Mr Sadeq Qorbzadeh, the Foreign Minister, have said they oppose the method, they were outvoted in the ruling Revolutionary Council.

About 3,300 candidates are contesting the elections, including 450 in Greater Tehran.

The exact timetable for the second round of the elections and the convening of the Majlis was still not known for certain today. Interior Ministry officials said they expected the second round to take place about April 4.

The Parliament may convene soon after that, but President Bani-Sadr told the French newspaper *Le Monde* this week that it could not start debating the hostage issue until the middle of May.

In an interview with a French radio network today, Mr Qorbzadeh said the militant students, who occupied the embassy on November 4, were becoming increasingly isolated from the rest of Iran's population.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman in Tehran said that the United Nations commission investigating the alleged crimes of the Shah "must return to Iran" after the parliamentary elections, "because the crisis between Iran and the United States is not finished".

He added that the commission must submit its report on the

Shah's regime before it could see the American captives.

The Interior Ministry has postponed the parliamentary elections in the Kurdish towns of Marivan and Saqqez, bringing to three the number of Kurdish towns where the poll has been suspended.

Tehran radio, said that armed groups dominated all these towns.

The radio confirmed reports of clashes around the town of Kaniaran, south of Sanandaj, the capital of Kurdistan. Quoting reports from the paramilitary Revolutionary Guard there, it said Kaniaran had been attacked by heavy weapons, including mortars.—Reuter, UPI and Agence France-Presse.

Surgeon flying to Shah: Dr Michael DeBakey, an American heart surgeon, will fly to Panama within the next few days to examine the Shah and determine whether his enlarged spleen should be removed, a spokesman for the doctor said.

He said Dr DeBakey had not been told in which hospital the operation might take place. "There are at least two very fine hospitals in Panama," he said.—Reuter.

British student told to leave by Czechs

By Our Foreign Staff

The Czechoslovak authorities yesterday ordered Mr A. Cargill, a British student, 19, out of the country. Mr Cargill, a Canadian, was arrested on Wednesday while attending a lecture organized by Prof Julius Tomin at the "Flying University".

It was the second such action within a week. Sunday, Dr William Ne Smith, a Canadian, who Fairfax Fellow in philosophy and senior tutor at Balliol College, Oxford, was expelled from Czechoslovakia after attending a lecture at the house.

According to information given by the Foreign Office to the British Embassy in Prague, Mr Cargill was arrested, held for hours for questioning, released after being told to leave the country by an order. By the afternoon embassy had not received answer to a request for information on how and when Cargill left the country.

It is understood that the lecture attended by Mr Cargill was interrupted by two Czech policemen who demanded identity cards. Professor Tomin, a Czechoslovak academic, has not been allowed to leave since 1968. They are the homes of dissidents attended by young people.



Mr Angus Cargill: He questioned by police.

'One system for all' is Mugabe aim

Continued from page 1

be necessary to reduce salaries paid to senior white civil servants.

A key element in Mr Mugabe's plans to make far-reaching changes in the way the country is run will be the amalgamation of the separate authorities that administer the daily lives of the country's black and white people.

Until now, most blacks living in the countryside have been controlled by the (white) district commissioners who run the country's 54 administrative districts and who come under the Ministry of Home Affairs. The predominantly white towns and European farming areas are run by local authorities, as in Britain, which fall under the Ministry of Local Government.

In future, district administration will be removed from the Home Affairs Ministry, of which Mr Joshua Nkomo, leader of the Zapu party, is to be head, and will be transferred to the new Ministry of Local Government under Mr Eddison Zvobgo.

"Our aim is to establish a single administrative system that will cater for blacks and whites, urban and rural areas," Mr Mugabe said. "There will be one system for all."

Mr Mugabe's plans for land resettlement will cause less concern within the European community. Today he identified two priority areas. First was the resettlement of the hundreds of thousands of "displaced people" in the areas where they had been living before the war forced them to flee.

Second, was the resettlement of people living in crowded tribal trust lands on underused white land. He added that these people would be resettled on cooperative or collective farms.

Most Europeans have accepted that a degree of African resettlement is necessary. The previous Administration of Bishop Abel Muzorewa had earmarked 10 million acres of underused land for resettlement but did very little about implementing such a plan.

On health and education, Mr Mugabe said that his government would initially concentrate on building and reopening the schools, hospitals and clinics that were destroyed during the war.

Mr Mugabe called for massive international assistance that would number of Western countries, among them Britain and the United States, had offered aid. However, no offers had been made by Communist block countries.

Mr Mugabe confirmed that he had asked Lord Soames, the Governor, to stay several weeks longer than planned. He thought independence day would be between the middle and the end of April.

Unions rally behind sportsmen

By Alan Hamilton

A deepening rift is opening between the Government and the sporting community over the question of British participation in the Moscow Olympics. Athletes are gradually being made aware of the indirect pressures on them to stay away from the summer games, while the Government searches for a compromise posture which will satisfy both the sportsmen and its own disapproval of Soviet actions in Afghanistan.

Civil service unions yesterday quickly sprang to the defence of any of their members who may find a Government employer unwilling to give them the necessary time off to compete in Moscow.

At the same time it was announced that Mr Douglas Hurd, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, will join United States and Australian officials at a meeting in Geneva on Monday.

The meeting will discuss the possibilities of staging alternatives to the Moscow Olympics. While the prospects of doing so do not appear bright, Foreign Office sources emphasise that the frustration of athletes and the view that it would be better to try for an alternative venue and fail, than not try at all.

The hope seems to be that an alternative games could be arranged after the completion of the official Olympics, and that the Soviet Union would be welcomed as a participant.

The Government can have drawn only modest comfort from the report of the Commons Select Committee on foreign affairs, published yesterday, which split predictably down the middle on party lines over its attitude to the games.

But it did agree on a recommendation supporting a boycott

until Soviet forces were withdrawn from Afghanistan, or satisfactory commitments to withdrawal were made.

A Labour proposal, defeated on the casting vote of the chairman, urged the British team to take part unless agreement could be reached with the Olympic bodies of other Western nations on a boycott. The committee noted the growing political exploitation of the games, and called for measures to ensure their long-term future in less controversial political conditions.

It was necessary, the committee said, for the Government's signals to the athletes to be unequivocal.

MPs will have the opportunity of a free vote on the issue in the Commons on Monday. Mr Norman St John Stevas, leader of the House, announced yesterday.

But Mr James Callaghan, the Opposition leader, accused the Cabinet of trying to smuggle through the issue, because the vote has been timed for 1 am, when there is likely to be a less than complete attendance.

Earlier in the Commons, during question time, the Prime Minister defended the Government's decision not to grant special leave to Government employees to attend the games, whether as competitors or officials. It would not make sense, she said, to advise them not to go and then give them extra time off to do so.

Instructions to be circulated by the Civil Service Department throughout Whitehall in the next few days will say that any civil servant who wishes extra paid leave, above his normal holiday entitlement, to go to Moscow, must have his case referred to the Department.

Requests for unpaid leave will be left to the discretion of and athletes have been harbouring a sense of grievance over the years. They feel that they are not properly consulted by the Government.

Internationally, there had been a lack of coordination in the positions taken by the leading members of the EEC and the United States. The danger now was that differences of opinion among the allies as to how to express their disapproval might be taken by the Soviet leaders as a lack of determination to oppose the invasion of Afghanistan.

Sportsmen felt that they were being singled out unfairly by the Government because it continued trade relations in the usual way. Mr Denis Howell, MP for Birmingham Small Heath, and a former Labour Minister for Sport, told the Parliamentary Labour Party last night (Our Political Correspondent writes).

He said the Government had recently signed a deal in Leipzig which involved the supply

of the individual's head of ment, but the thinly directive is that they too be looked upon with disapproval in such cases as no suggestion of outright prohibition.

The Civil and Public Service Association, the largest Civil Service unions, represents civil servants in grades, said it would attempt to find volunteers to be absent in Moscow, the last resort would be the salary of any forced to take unpaid leave.

Similar declarations of were made by the Inst of Professional Civil Servants and the Society of Civil Public Servants.

Similar strictures have placed by the Minister of Defence on members of armed services, who have told that they can part during their annual leave when they will need special mission to travel to as European country.

Individual athletes have continued to express their intention to be in Moscow assuming they are chosen the British Olympic squad despite of the increasing Government pressure.

Mr Geoff Capes, a politician in Cambridge, an athlete said he had no direct sure put on him not to go but he disagreed with pre being put on those athletes were civil servants.

Mr Sebastian Coe, a 100m sprinter, said he had no direct sure put on him not to go but he disagreed with pre being put on those athletes were civil servants.

Mr Peter Shore, MP for Sney and Poplar, the Foreign Secretary, said the Labour Party should stand into the men the Government had fallen into.

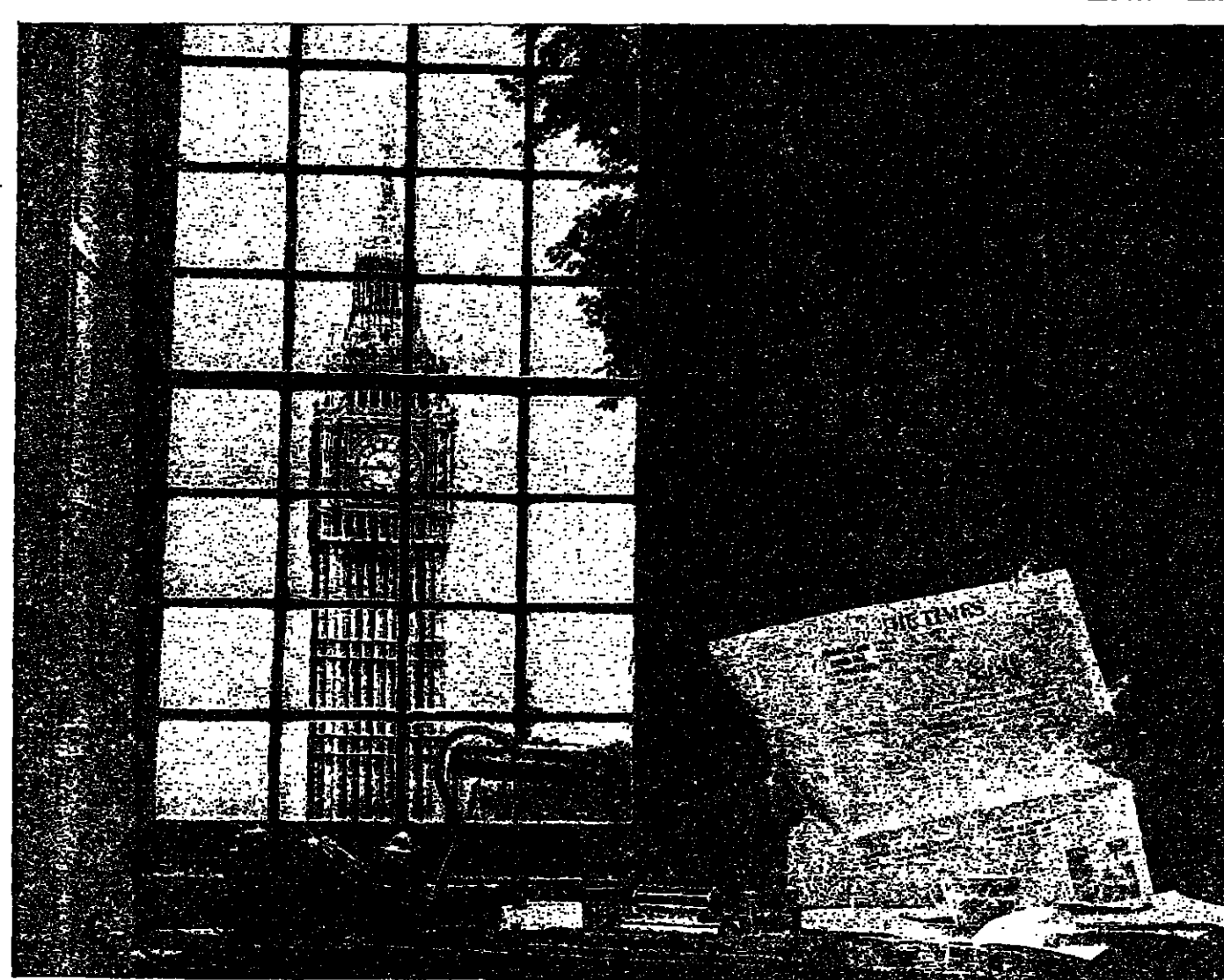
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THE TIMES

OVERSEAS

Ayatollah and inflation threaten Carter chances of reelection

From Patrick Brogan

Washington, March 13—President Carter has done well in the primaries so far. He lost Massachusetts to Senator Kennedy but won all the others. He is comfortably ahead in the delegate-selection process in all those states that hold party caucuses instead of primaries, and there can be little doubt he will win the Illinois primary next Tuesday.

For all that, his chances of winning the election in November diminish with every witch of Ayatollah Khomeini's puppet-strings and every jump in the inflation and interest rates. Occasionally even his most confident supporters wake up sweating in the night, dreaming of Camelot.

One thing at least is clear by now: Senator Kennedy is not going to take the nomination away from the President. If he does it, it will be because Mr Carter's position collapses under the weight of economic disaster, foreign policy failure, and a few more Carter blunders.

Senator Kennedy's arguments to carry Chappaquiddick is a serious matter; the belief that he might panic in a crisis, and worst of all his well-earned reputation as a liberal, will him down. On the other hand, he remains a firm core of solid support, partly because of his liberal credentials and most of all because he is a Kennedy.

Other candidates bow out of the race when they lose a few primaries. Kennedy has managed to stay in the game, winning only 30 per cent in South Carolina, Mr George Bush, who got 0 per cent in Florida and can expect to do no better in Illinois, seems destined to follow him.

Mr Kennedy can go from defeat to defeat, and although only a miracle can bring him victory he can stagger on until the bitter end, collecting a few delegates at every stage. Mr Bush's miracle must come at once. Mr Kennedy can wait for it.

The ingredients of the Carter disaster are lined up in the pen, waiting for time and the President to bring them together. The inflation rate has more than doubled in the past year—it is more than four times what it was when Mr Carter took office. Administration officials hope it has spurred up to 20 per cent or so, and will soon sink to more tolerable levels, but in countries not accustomed to such rates governments cannot survive with a continuing catastrophe. The polls show how fragile Mr Carter's position is on foreign affairs. People believe he is honest and keeps his head in an emergency, but he is not the man of people who think him competent is still about a quarter of the electorate—a measure of disapproval virally without precedent.

President keeps far ahead in Democratic caucuses

From Our Own Correspondent

Washington, March 13—President Carter is well ahead in the hunt for votes among Democrats in four states which held Democratic caucuses this week. Members of the party gathered in Oklahoma, Hawaii, Alaska and Washington on Tuesday and in Delaware yesterday to choose delegates to the national convention in August. Only in Alaska do supporters of Senator Edward Kennedy aim to be ahead, and since Alaska is the least-populated state in the union, sending the few delegates to the convention.

Recruits plan union

Orebro, Sweden, March 13.—Recruits in the Swedish Army have decided to form their own union. It could not strike, under existing Swedish law, but could work for better conditions, a spokesman for a recruits' meeting being held here said.

ADVERTISMENT

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US Elections



Mr Carter has been campaigning from the rose garden: he has not left Washington, except for weekends at Camp David, since the hostages were taken. The tactic served him well in the early part of the campaign, but he has just carried three important states in the South by overwhelming margins.

But as his popularity slips and that implacable cleric in Tehran continues to hold America hostage, the President may come to feel he is as much a hostage himself, trapped in the rose garden.

There is also the point made the other day by his campaign manager, Mr Robert Strauss, that it will take Mr Carter some time to hit his stride when he starts campaigning at last, and he may not be able to afford a month's stumbling in the autumn.

It took Senator Kennedy longer than that to pull his act together. His first campaign speeches, in November and December last year, were often muddled, badly delivered, and quite lacking a consistent theme. He has hit his stride now, notably after making a fine restatement of his liberal beliefs in late January, after he lost badly in the Iowa caucuses.

When Mr Carter finally starts campaigning, he will have to find a new theme—the promise to provide an honest and loving government that won the White House in 1976. It will not come easily to him. He has little to boast about and less to promise.

Phone call damages

Cleveland, March 13.—A man's telephone call home from a railway station here will cost the Ohio Bell Telephone Company \$30,000 (about £13,500). A jury awarded the money to Mr Ronald Colonna and his wife yesterday in a suit they brought after the wall phone unit fell on him.

The only one of the five states which has completed its count of the votes so far is Oklahoma, which gives Mr Carter 75 per cent and Mr Kennedy 10 per cent. The President's margin of victory was rather less in Washington and Delaware, but still better than two to one. He will probably win 15 or 16 of the delegates from Hawaii.

There were Republican caucuses in Washington and first results suggest that Mr Reagan was winning the most votes

Robber shot dead

Paris, March 13.—A robber was killed in a shooting incident with bank guards near the Ritz Hotel in the Place Vendôme. A second robber escaped in a stolen taxi after holding up the Banque Nationale de Paris.

S Korea Army chief jailed over coup attempt

From Jacqueline Rediff

Seoul, March 13.—General Chung Seung Bwa, former Chief of Staff of the South Korean Army, was sentenced today after a military court found him guilty of aiding an attempt to overthrow the Government, after the assassination of President Park Chung Hee in October.

General Chung, aged 51, pleaded not guilty. The prosecution had asked for a 15-year sentence. General Chung's counsel said he would recommend an appeal after the Defence Minister had confirmed or reduced the sentence within 10 days.

The former general sat quietly in a traditional white Korean jacket, handcuffed between military guards, as the judge Vice-Admiral Chung Won Min, passed sentence.

Admiral Chung and a four-man panel of officers accepted the prosecution charge that General Chung tacitly cooperated with Kim Jae Kyu, the former head of the South Korean Central Intelligence Agency, who has confessed to the assassination.

Firemen trying to control a huge fire in George Street, central Sydney, last night. Flames rose hundreds of feet over the city.

Plans to shorten trials seen as appeasing embassy hostages' captors

Bogotá, March 13.—The Colombian Government has announced plans to shorten trials of suspected guerrillas in an apparent move to help secure the release of 30 hostages held in the Dominican Republic Embassy here.

Last night it was announced that a commission of nine prominent jurists, including the Attorney-General and two former Justice Ministers, had been set up to examine how to

Mr Ford's comments suggest he may run

Washington, March 13.—Former President Gerald Ford has increased speculation that he intends entering this year's race for the presidency by delivering two strong attacks on President Carter.

Mr Ford told a Republican fundraising dinner last night: "My sole, single purpose, politically or otherwise, is to get President Carter out of the White House."

Earlier Mr Ford said in a television interview with CBS that Mr Carter had brought the United States to "the precipice of danger both at home and abroad." He added he would decide within the next week whether to enter the election campaign.

Mr Ford described Mr Carter's economic programme as a disaster, his energy policies as misguided and ineffective, and his foreign policies as "contradictory, erratic and downright dangerous."

He said that if the crisis over the 49 American hostages held in the United States Embassy in Tehran, ended successfully, Mr Carter should not take the credit. "Don't ever call this a diplomatic triumph or try to tell me that the Carter Administration did more than muddle through."

But in a later speech, Mr Ford appeared concerned about the vehemence of his remarks about Mr Carter.

He said that the President should not take such criticism personally because Mr Carter was a decent and honourable person.—Reuter.



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Last night it was announced that a commission of nine prominent jurists, including the Attorney-General and two former Justice Ministers, had been set up to examine how to

speed up the pace of the military trials of 217 members of the leftist M-19 group. The trials began in November.

Other M-19 members seized the embassy during a reception on February 27. They are demanding the release of 70 leftist prisoners and a ransom of nearly £5m in exchange for the hostages, which include 12 ambassadors.

The original demand called for 311 suspected guerrillas to

be freed and a ransom of about £25m, but M-19 is said to have reduced its conditions.

A fifth round of talks between guerrillas and the Government was due to begin today.

Before the trials of the M-19 members began, the Government suspended the procedure of reading the evidence, which runs to 72,000 pages, but the defendants appealed to the Supreme Court which rejected

the Government's decree as unconstitutional.

About 12,000 pages of evidence are thought to have been read so far and it would take a year to finish at that rate.

Forty-three of the alleged guerrillas are being tried in their absence, the other 174 are in custody.

The new commission met President Turbay Ayala and several ministers yesterday. A group of jurists consulted

by the daily newspaper *El Tiempo* said President Turbay could not grant amnesty to suspected guerrillas as such a decision would have to be taken by Congress and approved by a two-thirds majority.

Diplomatic sources said most of the foreign governments whose ambassadors are being held in the embassy were also against paying any ransom.—Reuter.

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Vatican delegation in Moscow for talks

From Michael Binyon

Moscow, March 13.—A Vatican delegation of eight, led by the Archbishop of Utrecht, Cardinal Willebrands, arrived in Moscow today to take part in ecumenical talks with leaders of the Russian Orthodox Church.

The meetings, which will last 10 days, will be held in the Odessa seminary, one of three seminaries in the Soviet Union where Orthodox priests are trained, and where the Patriarch has his summer residence.

Cardinal Willebrands, who is president of the Vatican Secretariat for Christian Unity, has played an important part in moves to improve relations between the Roman Catholic and Orthodox churches of eastern and southern Europe. In 1963 he was the first cardinal to visit Moscow.

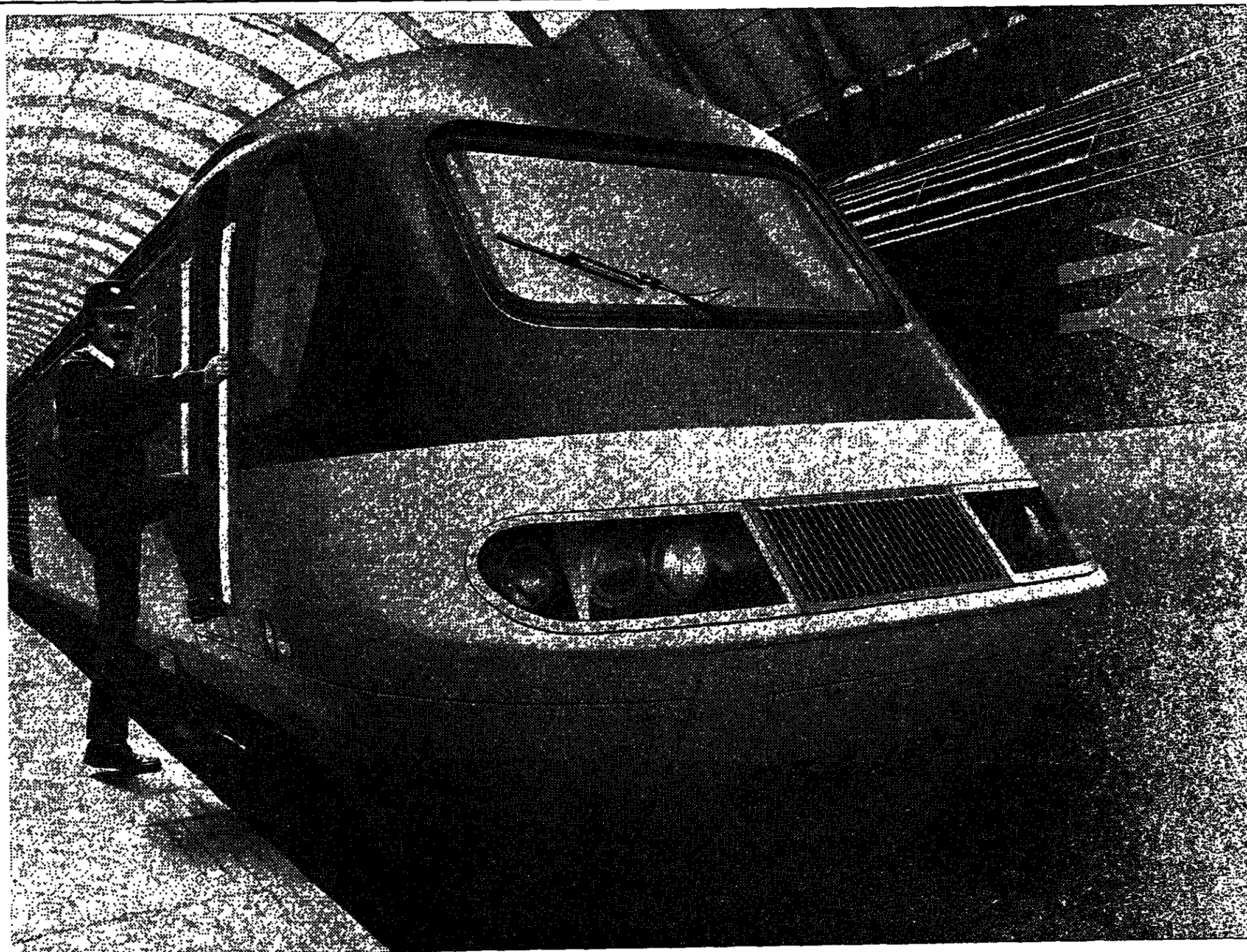
The present round of talks, the fifth since the dialogue started in 1967, is not likely to be easy. There are important differences between the two churches, which have sharpened noticeably in recent years.

The principal one is the Pope's support for the Uniates — the Ukrainian Catholic Church that recognized Rome but which was forcibly merged with the Russian Orthodox Church by Stalin after the war.

Shortly after his accession, the Pope wrote a letter of support to Cardinal Iosif Slipyi, the exiled Primate of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, which aroused deep suspicions among the Orthodox leadership that the Vatican was attempting to reestablish its position in the Ukraine.

Soviet-Vatican relations in general have been strained since the election of the present Pope, a strong and vocal opponent of Marxism. Matters have been complicated by the emergence of a strong dissident movement among Catholics in Lithuania, which has the support of many Catholic clergy there.

Though the Russian Orthodox Church is not directly involved in this issue, the question of believers' rights is likely to be raised by the Roman Catholic delegation.



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OVERSEAS

Seizure of Arab land deepens rift in Egypt-Israel relations

From Christopher Walker

Jerusalem, March 13. Friction between Israel and Egypt over Jewish settlements in the occupied territories has been increased by the Israeli decision to seize 1,000 acres of land in east Jerusalem to build a new Jewish suburb. Two thirds of the land is owned by Arabs.

The seizure was the first of significance in the former Arab sector of Jerusalem since the signing of the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty early last year. The Egyptian Government today joined the United States and Dr Kurt Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General, in condemning the move, which is regarded as an act of Israeli defiance in the face of the United Nations resolution passed earlier this month calling for the dismantling of all settlements on Arab land.

A government spokesman in Cairo claimed that the expropriation was "new evidence of Israeli persistence in violating international law and obstructing the implementation of the Camp David accords".

In diplomatic circles, there

was speculation that the seizure will have further reduced the slim chance that the deadlocked talks on Palestinian autonomy might reach a successful conclusion by the appointed date of May 26.

The Israeli Government is expected to issue soon a formal rejection of the international criticism of the expropriation. Mr David Levy, Minister of Housing, has defended the move, stating: "We are talking about an area under Israeli sovereignty in which we have an absolute right to expropriate land for public purposes."

Although some Israeli politicians have been critical of the timing of the Government's announcement, few would contest the principle that Israel has a right to seize land in the part of Jerusalem that was annexed from Jordan in the 1967 war.

It is repeatedly pointed out that the annexation was carried out under a Labour government, and that the original plan to build new homes on the site on the outskirts of east Jerusalem was proposed by the last Labour administration before it lost office in 1977.

West Bank coexistence, page 16

Anger over Austria's recognition of PLO

From Our Correspondent

Vienna, March 13. Kreisky, the Austrian Chancellor, has confirmed that his Government has recognized the Palestinian Liberation Organization.

Dr Kreisky said that Austria's acceptance of the accreditation of Mr Ghazi Hussain, the PLO representative to the United Nations in Vienna, as the PLO representative in Austria was a de facto recognition by Austria of the organization as the representatives of the Palestinians.

Dr Kreisky said: "This is a new way of recognizing the diplomatic representative of the nation without a country".

Mr Hussain, who has been in Vienna since 1977, said today that Dr Kreisky had kept a promise made in a speech to the United Nations last October, in which he said that the recognition of the Palestinian nation was essential to peace in the Middle East.

Mr Hussain, who has established himself as a respected and unflappable diplomat, has also been accredited by the PLO as its representative in Bonn. He already enjoys full diplomatic status in Austria because of his accreditation to the United Nations.

Mr Yasakhar Ben-Yaacov, the Israeli Ambassador in Vienna, has visited the Austrian Foreign Affairs Ministry to ask for clarification of Mr Hussain's

accreditation, which was published in the Socialist Party newspaper Arbeiter-Zeitung.

This method of publicity has angered the two opposition parties in Austria. They have questioned whether the recognition of the PLO was a decision which the Government could take without parliamentary consultation.

Our Jerusalem Correspondent writes: The Austrian Government's move caused deep anger to the Israeli Cabinet, which has been growing increasingly concerned in recent weeks about the support for the Palestinian cause being shown by several European states.

For many Israelis, the bitterness has been heightened by the knowledge that Dr Kreisky comes from Jewish stock.

A senior Foreign Ministry spokesman said that the exact form of the Israeli response would not be announced until Israel's ambassador in Vienna had reported in full.

Last week Israel made formal protests to France, Britain and West Germany because of their separate statements of public support for the right of Palestinians to self-determination. A stronger rebuke is certain to be sent to Austria, but there was doubt among officials here whether this would amount to breaking diplomatic relations.

Mother jailed in support case

Washington, March 13. A woman was jailed for eight hours this week for failing to make child-support payments to her former husband, who earns more than twice as much as she does. Linda Jean Miller, aged 27, a bar worker who earns

\$6,000 (£2,600), was \$2,000 behind in payments to her husband, a carpenter.

Judge Robert Woods ordered her to be sent to jail until she paid the money. Her employer provided it some hours later.

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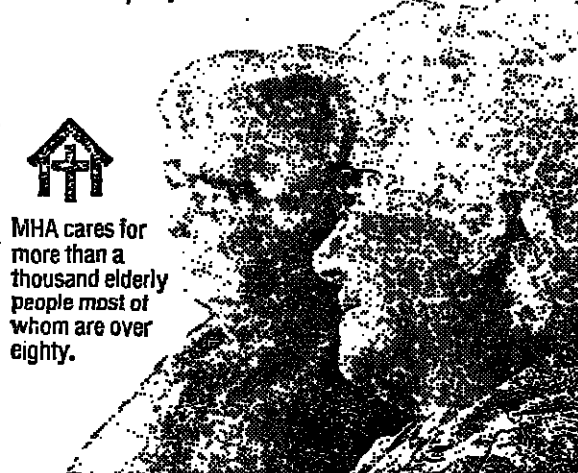
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Labour unrest in Turkey: A policeman driving two workers at gunpoint from a textile factory in the violence-swept Zeytinburnu district of Istanbul yesterday. About 1,500 workers had occupied the factory in protest at the dismissal of 500 employees, which the management said was the result of an economy drive and not

based on any political grounds. After 42 days of the sit-in, a joint force of police and troops charged into the factory yesterday and removed the protesters. This was the latest in a series of labour agitations to shake the Government of Mr Suleyman Demirel in its struggle to revive the almost bankrupt economy. During its

three months in power about 950 people have been killed in acts of political violence — an average of nine a day. Six factory workers were shot dead on Wednesday night after being hauled from their van near the south-eastern town of Urfa.

Turkey likely to elect a civilian President

From Sinan Fisek

Ankara, March 13

When the Turkish Parliament convenes on March 22 to choose a replacement for President Korkut, it seems unlikely that an officer will succeed the retired Marshal. Despite rumours that his mandate will be extended, it is constitutionally impossible for Mr Korkut to be re-elected at the end of his seven-year term of presidency.

There is, as yet, no front-runner candidate for the mainly ceremonial post, but all the political parties concerned appear to agree that a civilian should be elected.

Although General Kenan Evren, the highly respected chief of general staff, would be a natural first choice, political observers here believe that the general has no wish to compromise a brilliant military career with an eleven-hour political gamble.

From the best of candidates in the race, the two most likely names to emerge are those of Senator Zeyyat Baykara, an independent MP, named to the Upper House by President Korkut, and an experienced former cabinet minister, Mr Hasan Sabri Caglayan, the president of the Senate and a Minister of Foreign Affairs in previous Justice Party cabinets.

Although the Justice Party has not voiced its preference in the presidential election, it agrees that Mr Caglayan, although aged 72, is the man Mr Suleyman Demirel, the Prime Minister, would like to see as president.

According to political observers, the Republican People's Party of Mr Bülent Ecevit, which holds the largest number of seats in Parliament, believes that Mr Caglayan would not make a sufficiently impartial President, and therefore favours Mr Baykara, despite opposition from the left wing of the party.

Mr Ecevit's internal opponents are said to be against Mr Baykara for having been an influential member of Army-backed right-wing cabinets between 1971 and 1973.

A possible alternative RPP candidate whose name has cropped up recently is Mr Muhittin Taylan, a noted moderate and a former president of the Constitutional Court.

Another likely candidate, also an RPP member, is Mr Hasan East Isik, a former Defence and Foreign Minister in two Ecevit governments.

Yet another dark horse is Mr Cahit Karakas, the National Assembly Speaker, also an RPP member.

What is most likely to happen, according to most observers, is that none of the candidates will obtain the amount of votes needed (two-thirds of the votes in the first two rounds and an absolute majority afterwards) and that the polling will drag on with Mr Caglayan becoming acting head of state as president of the Senate, after Mr Korkut steps down on April 6.

What seems to be certain at this point—as far as things can be certain in Turkish politics—is that the new president will not be a soldier.

Islamic call for UN meeting on Palestinians

Marrakesh, March 13

Islamic leaders meeting in Marrakesh, Morocco, have called for an emergency meeting of the United Nations General Assembly to discuss the Palestinian and Jerusalem issues.

A document adopted by a committee of the Islamic Conference Organization also recommended that its members should send ministers to European and other non-Muslim states to seek support for Palestinian rights and recognition of the Palestine Liberation Organization as the only legitimate representative of the Palestinians.

The recommendations were approved at a closing session of a two-day meeting of the 14-member Jerusalem committee of the Islamic Conference last night.

It praised the French endorsement of Palestinians' rights to self-determination, and suggested that a special conference should be held in Paris this year to inform the European public about the Jerusalem issue.—Reuters

CIA accused of fomenting internal disorder in Syria

Damascus, March 13

Syrian newspapers today echoed President Hafez al-Assad of Syria in blaming the United States Central Intelligence Agency for the country's unrest.

The government newspaper Tishrin said in a leading article that the CIA was controlling armed men responsible for attacks on Syrian Government establishments. It called on the population to stand together against the "enemies of the people".

In a speech to trade unionists on Tuesday, President Assad for the first time publicly accused the CIA of fomenting internal disorder in Syria.

The newspaper of the ruling Baath Party, Al Baath, said that "killers and bandits" operating

British minister 'snubbed' by Kuwait leader

Beirut, March 13

Shaikh Jaber al-Ahmad al Sabah, the Emir of Kuwait, snubbed Mr Douglas Hurd, Minister of State at the British Foreign Office, during his visit to the Gulf states which ended today, the left-wing Beirut newspaper As-Safir reported.

The newspaper said today that the Emir cancelled a meeting with Mr Hurd after the British Minister had refused to recognize "the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people".

As-Safir, which quoted no source for its report, said the Kuwaiti move was in protest at a statement on Monday by Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, in which she had linked Palestinian self-determination with PLO recognition of Israel.

Mr Hurd, who left for London today after a Mrs visit to North Yemen and Kuwait, declined to meet the Kuwaiti request on PLO recognition.

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In a speech to trade unionists on Tuesday, President Assad for the first time publicly accused the CIA of fomenting internal disorder in Syria.

The newspaper of the ruling Baath Party, Al Baath, said that "killers and bandits" operating

in Syria were paid and armed by the CIA and Israel. It also accused the right-wing Lebanese Phalangist party of helping to smuggle weapons into Syria.

There has been widespread unrest and violence in northern and central Syria over the past few weeks.

"It is no secret that many Israeli and American advisers are now in the Jounieh and Dabiyeh", Al Baath said in a reference to two coastal towns in the part of Lebanon controlled by right-wingers.

"It is no secret that many American and Israeli ships loaded with arms are now at Aquamarina to distribute weapons in Syria and Lebanon". Aquamarina is one of the illegal ports dotted along the Lebanese coast.—Reuters

Hungary's former party chief dies

Budapest, March 13

Mr Erno Gero, leader of the Hungarian communist party for three months before the Budapest uprising of 1956, died today of a heart attack aged 82.

Mr Gero was briefly installed as party leader under Soviet pressure after the removal of the Stalinist leader Mr Matyas Rakosi. He was powerless to stop a growing anti-Soviet movement which led to bitter fighting between workers and students, rose against the regime.—Reuters

Mr Dayan says peace treaty threatened

From Our Own Correspondent

Jerusalem, March 13

Mr Moshe Dayan, the former Israeli Foreign Minister, gave a warning today that if no solution was found to the Palestinian question, many aspects of the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty could be destroyed.

Mr Dayan said: "Even if, from the legal and literal aspects, there is no linkage

Grenada proud of its Castro links

St George's, Grenada, March 13

The Cuban presence on this tiny Caribbean island has become firmly entrenched in the year since a leftist revolution overthrew the pro-Western Government of Sir Eric Gairy.

A large photograph of President Fidel Castro of Cuba greets visitors to Grenada's media centre in the capital. On the dusty wind-swept Point Saline area not far away, dozens of Cuban lorries and bulldozers are being used to build a £20m international airport.

At Pearls Airport, 18 miles outside St George's, a Cuban executive jet waits to return home with Señor Jesus Montane Oropesa, a senior Communist Party official, here to attend a two-week festival marking the anniversary of the overthrow of the Gairy Government.

As Grenada swings leftward, Mr Maurice Bishop, who succeeded Sir Eric Gairy as Prime Minister, speaks of an "unbreakable Cuban-Grenadan friendship". "If there was no Cuba," Mr Bishop has told daily

allies here, "there would not have been a Grenada revolution."

But he has rejected American claims that this 133-square mile spice exporting island is becoming a Cuban or Soviet satellite.

He said the Government's foreign policy statements—which include an attack on the Israeli-Egyptian peace agreement and approval of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan—were part of a principled policy of support for oppressed peoples.

The Grenada Government now has relations with 17 nations and has said it is building a wide-ranging diplomatic network.

This is needed to bolster a country whose population suffers from malnutrition, mass unemployment, a high illiteracy rate, low export earnings, inadequate housing and poor health facilities.

Most aid so far has come from Cuba, which is meeting roughly half the cost of building the new airport. The Cubans are also providing Grenada with 11 fishing trawlers and

training Grenada youths in fishing and agriculture.

Mr Bishop said that Cuba had offered Grenada the kind of aid that usually took years to acquire. The revolution on March 13 last year showed Grenada who its true friends were.

In an apparent reference to the United States, he said that wealthy countries offered Grenada only a trickle of aid in exchange for anti-Cuban policies.

The Government says Grenada wants the Caribbean to be a zone of peace, free of armies and military bases. It has also called for self-determination for territories which it says are under British, American, Dutch and French colonialism.

The Government has also called for an end to what it calls the arming and financing of "counter-revolutionaries and anti-popular, anti-democratic or anti-progressive regimes" and respect for the sovereignty, legal equality and territorial integrity for the region's islands.—Reuters

never been given the opportunity to defend themselves before an impartial judge, for merely having been considered 'harmful'.

The report adds: "The legal system in Cuba prevents free expression and any expression of disagreement with the Socialist system. There are individuals who are in prison for merely having expressed their opposition to the system."

The report also says there are hundreds of people in prison for trying to escape from Cuba.

"Political prisoners are subjected to forced labour, which is a violation of International Labour Organization conventions on this subject, ratified by the Government of Cuba."

The report says 3,500 political prisoners were released last year after negotiations between the Cuban Government and Cuban exiles, but about 1,000 people remain in jail on political charges.—Reuters

The report says the Cuban Government had not provided any information about the treatment of prisoners. The OAS expelled Cuba in 1962.

"The treatment of 'intransigent' prisoners is characterized by mistreatment, absence of medical attention, lack of proper food and absence of due process", the report says.

"There are people in prisons who have never been brought to trial, with no evidence against them, and who have

Prison conception

Berlin, March 13

A man and a woman, both serving life terms for child murder, have conceived a child in spite of the presence of guards during social periods. The two were married in a West Berlin prison two years ago.

Poisoned flour deaths

Beirut, March 13

Nine people died and 30 were taken ill after eating poisoned flour in a village in northern Lebanon, officials said today. A Lebanese Army medical team has been sent to treat the victims.

Law Report March 13 1980

Winsor v Schroeder

Before Mr Justice Woolf

[Judgment delivered March 7]

Where money is ordered to be paid into court as a condition of leave to defend under RSC Order 14, and the defendant appropriates the whole or part of the sum within the meaning of Order 22, rule 8, so that it is deemed to be a voluntary payment in interest which has accrued on the sum appropriated should only be transferred by the Accountant General to the cash account of the Paymaster General in accordance with rule 27 (3) of the Supreme Court Fund Rules, 1975, where the plaintiff has accepted the sum in satisfaction of the claim before the trial of the action, as provided by Order 22, rule 31(1).

Rule 27(3) provides: "For the purposes of payment out of court, the Accountant General shall deal with the sum appropriated in accordance with rule 43(1) and shall transfer any interest accrued in respect of the amount withdrawn from deposit to the cash account of Her Majesty's Paymaster General in accordance with rule 51(3)."

Rule 43(1) provides: "Money appropriated in accordance with rule 27... which has been accepted under Order 22, rule 31(1), shall be paid by the Accountant General to the plaintiff."

Mr Schroeder had been granted leave to defend proceedings brought by Mr Robert Winsor, on condition that she paid £6,000 into court. That sum was placed on deposit in accordance with the Supreme Court Fund Rules, and began to earn interest. She appropriated £3,265 out of that sum by notice dated June 11, 1979, so that it might be treated as a voluntary payment in interest. The sum was not accepted by the plaintiff, and at the trial Mr Justice Woolf ordered that the sum in court should be paid out, with in-

terest, to Mrs Schroeder. The Accountant General maintained that the interest which had accrued on the appropriated sum did not fall within the judge's order, but should be transferred to the Paymaster General by reason of rule 27(3).

Mr Justice Woolf granted an application by Mrs Schroeder for a declaration that the interest which had accrued on the sum paid into court by her under Order 14, as a condition of leave to defend, and later appropriated under Order 22, rule 8, was payable to her by the Accountant General notwithstanding the provisions of rule 27(3).

Mr R. Russell, for Mrs Schroeder: Mr Simon Brown for the Accountant General.

MR JUSTICE WOOLF said that where money was paid into court as a condition of liberty to defend, it was placed on deposit and earned interest. If nothing further happened, the court giving judgment was able to deal with the interest accrued up to the date of trial. Where notice of appropriation was given so as to treat the person as a voluntary payment, the interest was payable to her by the Accountant General notwithstanding the provisions of rule 27(3).

It was placed on deposit and earned interest. If nothing further happened, the court giving judgment was able to deal with the interest accrued up to the date of trial. Where notice of appropriation was given so as to treat the person as a voluntary payment, the interest was payable to her by the Accountant General notwithstanding the provisions of rule 27(3).

The intent of rule 27(3) was to be the same if it read: "The purposes of payment out of court, as provided by Order 22, rule 31(1), shall be paid by the Accountant General in accordance with rule 43(1) and shall transfer any interest accrued in respect of the amount withdrawn from deposit to the cash account of Her Majesty's Paymaster General in accordance with rule 51(3)."

The applicant was entitled to the declaration sought. Solicitors: Messrs. S. Buzner & Selby, 25 Essex Street, London, W.C.2.

Queen's Bench Divi

Interest practice overruled

even though the plaintiff did not accept the sum and Schroeder succeeded in the action, the result could properly be regarded as a precedent.

The matter turned on the interpretation of rule 27(3), when read literally seemed to require that the interest accrued on the sum paid into court by the plaintiff should be transferred to the Accountant General in accordance with rule 51(3). As a result of the decision of both counsel, the sum paid into court by the plaintiff should be transferred to the plaintiff in accordance with rule 43(1).

The intent of rule 27(3) was to be the same if it read: "The purposes of payment out of court, as provided by Order 22, rule 31(1), shall be paid by the Accountant General in accordance with rule 43(1) and shall transfer any interest accrued in respect of the amount withdrawn from deposit to the cash account of Her Majesty's Paymaster General in accordance with rule 51(3)."

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India 'won't explode a nuclear device'

From Kuldip Nayyar

Delhi, March 13

Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Minister, said today that India would not hesitate to use a nuclear explosion if necessary in the nation's interest.

Speaking in the Rajya Sabha (upper house), she said India remained committed to the peaceful use of technology. But she said the Government must after the interests of the country. We must have eyes and ears open and touch with the latest tech. We should not be caught napping.

Mrs Gandhi's statement marked a departure from policy of her predecessor Morarji Desai, who said India was against "a nuclear explosion, what may."

India has been assuaging some of its neighbours' fears of its nuclear power technology that it was in for peaceful purposes. Gandhi said her Government believed that and it was not to decrease the area.

India is reported to have told the United States it will not renounce its nuclear explosions. The Government was replying to a question from Mr Carter that India must supply before enriched uranium supplies can be resumed.

Mr Homi Sethna, the man of India's Atomic Energy Commission, said that the Government would not be closed even if the United States does not its commitment to nuclear fuel.

"Our efforts in the years towards self-reliance, given us the confidence to face such challenges," Mrs Gandhi, did not, a vociferous demand. Rajya Sabha from member party for an investigation to the deal involving aircraft.

Gandhi said the Government would decide whether purchase of the Jaguar requirements of the Air Force, bearing in developments in the rest world.

Thailand hint of harder line on refugee

From Our Correspondent Bangkok, March 13

The Bangkok-based Thai government has hinted that it will soon adopt a less policy towards Indo-Chinese marks made today by Dr Khoman, the new Deputy Minister responsible for affairs.

Dr Thanat, expressing that world leaders for refugees had now turned to problems in the Middle and Afghanistan, asked were right for Thailand to out an open door policy for the sake of the refugees.

"Today we are runnin of money but the burc (refugees) still exist said. "What we are go do is consider how to ourselves to the change in order to achieve is best for our country."

The Thailand's refugee of Indo-Chinese refugees left last month for re ment in third countries. / two thirds went to the States. In February last only 2,559 refugees left last for resettlement. The 115,700 refugees in Thai and 150,000 Kampuchean classified as refugees, in centres.

Foreign Report is on page 12

tion of Afghanistan.

You'd like to seek to atone in some measure for the inept handling by granting the united desire of the House to debate the Olympic issue at a proper time with a full debate (Renewed Cheers.)

Mr St John-Stevens: The Government and the Prime Minister have given a clear lead not only to this country but to the world. We shall take early action on this matter and other countries are following our example.

Earlier, during Prime Minister's speech, Mr James Dobson (Carnegie, Holborn and St Pancras, South, Lab) had asked Mrs Margaret Thatcher to reconsider the Government's decision of taking against British athletes working in the public sector.

The Olympic Movement (he said) is the possibility that the Moscow Games will do more damage to the Olympic movement and young athletes throughout the world than the Olympics themselves. The strongest characteristics in the Kremlin, Mrs. Thatcher (Baroness Finchley, C.)—The Olympic movement is one which is founded on peace and friendship. It has hardly observed that necessity for peace and friendship, for we are advising athletes not to participate in the Moscow Games. Many other countries are doing the same.

It would not make sense to advise athletes not to go and then tell them to go over and above their national leave so that they can do. For that reason, we are not giving athletes the choice either to them or to the Services.

we will be trying to arrange meetings with the producers organizations for next week so speedy action can be taken.

Mr. Patrick Wall (Haltempric,

Mr. Walker—The date when agreement will be reached is beyond speculation. I hope on the progress being made, that we can reach agreement by June, July or early autumn. We have based this programme on the period between June and September, when there is likely to be uncertainty.

Mr. Donald Stewart (Western Isles, Scot. Nat.)—Can he assure us that this assistance is not intended as a beforehand softening in attitude to negotiations on the common

Isneries policy?

Mr Walker—There is no possibility of any question at all of selling out the fishing industry for other factors.

Mr John Robertson (Berwick and East Lothian, Lab)—The vexed question of the duties on poached imports is still causing enormous problem.

Mr Walker—There are industries that depend upon continuation of imports. For the processing of fish, for instance, a ban on imports will not be to the benefit of everybody.

Mr Alexander Pollock (Moray and Nairn, C)—Does the Government intend to commission a regular examination of any evidence of import abuse and will he press for action against any such illegal imports?

Mr Walker—Yes.

Fresh milk to the doorstep vital

Consumer groups urging the availability of ultra heat treated milk in supermarkets were advised by the Minister of Agriculture to consider the dangers and implications for doorstep distribution of milk.

Sir Anthony Meyer (West Flier, C) said in a supplementary question

I hope that, whatever consumer organisations they will recognise the potential dangers and implications for doorstep distribution.

The Minister has said twice and East Lothian, Lab—Will the Minister explain the utter perversity which proposes to run down the door-to-door trade of the European Community is prepared to pay four-fifths of the cost?

Mr Walker—We are hearing local

authorities the freedom to decide that.

Mr Selwyn Gussmer (Eye, C)—It is my concept that (a subsidiary of the Milk Marketing Board) Dairy Crest, should force retailers to sell milk in cartons instead of in bottles. This would not only increase the waste of natural resources and are cheaper than the cartons foisted on the public.

Mr Gussmer said that he thought Mr Thomas Torney (Bradford, South, Lab)—Will the minister discuss with the chairman of the Milk Marketing Board a plan to secure that the milk industry is not forced to EEC to ensure that the nation's schoolchildren can have their milk?

Mr Walker—I have already had a dialogue with the chairman of the MMB, and the president of the

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SPORT
Ice skating

Wobble loses British pair their edge in medal battle

From John Hennessey
Dormund, March 13

Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean, the British ice dance champions, had surrendered third place at the end of the world championship compulsorys here today. They have been overtaken by Irina Moiseyeva and Andrei Minenkov (Soviet Union), Olympic bronze medal winners at Lake Placid and former world champions. The top places to go fairly follow Lake Placid, with Natalia Luchuk and Gennadi Karponosov (Soviet Union) first (in spite of a misadventure) and Kristina Rogozhina and Andras Szalay (Hungary) second.

The main setback for Britain came in the original set pattern dance. The second set, a couple had squeezed ahead already on the kilt, a dance set to march tempo, but only on a technicality. Two errors in the fourth dance, however, left the British couple with only two judges in their favour and a third marking them equal with Miss Moiseyeva and her husband.

Miss Torvill and her partner open with a dramatic double swing with Miss Torvill's free leg wrapped round her partner. This throws her to a perilously deep outside edge of the right foot. On the first circuit she skidded unsteadily: on the second only the strong arm of the law (Dean is a policeman) prevented her from falling as she lost her edge in a crazy wobble. There was a sympathetic round of applause when the move was successfully accomplished (no chickening out here) on the third circuit. The British couple were less severely penalized than feared but, of course, the prospect of a bronze medal which loomed large yesterday has receded.

Rugby Union

England set off for assault on grand slam summit

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

The England team, who trained in glorious Border country at Peebles yesterday on a sunny spring-like afternoon, the final preparations are being made before they set off for the last base camp for a final assault on the summit: the grand slam and all that goes with it. Provided they can beat Scotland at Murrayfield tomorrow.

Success would taste especially sweet for the most seasoned members of the side such as Fran Cotton, who won his first cap shortly after Tony Neary had done so, in 1971. "I regard it," Cotton said, "as probably the most important game I've ever played—even more important than winning the Lions Test series in South Africa in '74."

These thoughts were wholly endorsed by Roger Urdley, who first played for his country in 1972. "The lows for England have outnumbered the highs. We now have a tremendous opportunity and it would be even nicer to do it in style."

The captain, Bill Beaumont, has been around for some lean years too. "We want to be remembered," he declared, "as a side that won everything, not just three matches, and we want to be able to look back on it all in the years ahead and say 'we were there'. Victory would be a terrific boost for English rugby and its supporters, and we're not minded to let a great chance slip away now. I don't in the least mind winning all four matches with what some people call a poor side."

Going on to observe that English success had been built on playing controlled rugby (but con-

ceding that a couple of errors had led to the two Welsh tries at Twickenham), Beaumont added that overall they had given little away and that in his view the England backs, notably the two wings, were as fast as those of any other home country.

"But we're under no illusions," he said. "Scotland have a fierce pride. They set it as a great challenge to knock us over and we know how dangerous they can be in broken play."

"Budge" Rogers, chairman of the England selectors, is quietly confident. "If the team play the rugby of which they are capable—as for instance, against France—they'll get the result they deserve."

The coach, Mike Davis, takes much satisfaction from what he terms the thorough and dedicated approach of the side. "The attitude," he said, "is everything. It's keeping his feet on the ground."

England have been obliged to make one change among their replacements. Mike Ratfer, who has been troubled by hamstring trouble through a fitness test on Tuesday, failed to pass another yesterday. The selectors have sent for the Swansea flanker, Mark Keyworth, who faces a complicated journey from Aberystwyth. Tony Bond, the Lancashire scrum-half, who was carried off with a broken leg during the match against Ireland, will be joining the English party in Edinburgh today. He is expected to lose his plaster in about a fortnight.

According to the historians, the side representing Scotland tomorrow will be the first in 100 years that has not included an Anglo-Scottish party stayed last night in Peebles. They will have some light rain in the morning, and then move on to Edinburgh in the afternoon.

Hignell waits for Lions call

England's forgotten full back Alastair Hignell has crossed the British Lions selectors' name in his bid to tour South Africa.

Injury has kept the 24-year-old Bristol teacher out of the line-up this season, restricting him to fewer than 10 appearances. Hignell has said they will release him from his cricketer duties as they did for England's first Test tour last year. But Hignell said: "I've had no hint at all whether I'm being considered."

"I know a Lions selector watched me in our disappointing

John Player Cup tie against Gloucester last year. I was told to see anyone coming down for a final check this weekend as we play Plymouth on the evening after the international."

Mike Fry, the Bristol captain, confirms that Hignell is now back to the form which won him his England cap. "He's a bit shaky but he's shaken off a troublesome ankle injury by scoring two tries in last weekend's easy win over Torquay. Hignell has been in place on the Lions tour of New Zealand in 1977 but had to pass it because of exams at Cambridge University."

Rowing

Shrewsbury win Head of the River race

By Jim Ralton

Shrewsbury School rule the Tideway for the first time, winning the 44th Head of the River Schools Race yesterday. It was a welcome return for coach Nick Bevan, an Oxford Blue and former pupil at Shrewsbury, who has been on sabbatical leave in Australia during the past year. Bevan, in fact, coached yesterday's boat for this event. Westminster School, when they won this title for the only time in 1971.

There was a record entry yesterday for the two-mile schools head race, the Tideway, which attracted a record entry of 214 crews, an increase in both the eight and four divisions. This increasingly popular event attracted no less than 13 Eton eights—the biggest school boat in the world—and embraced a comprehensive school from Selsey Park, Beckenham, who in Curlew RC colours boast no boat but a fifth meter and two stop watches. Eton, in the open eights event, made a good start but wilted during the second two thirds of the course. Shrewsbury, starting in seventh position, rowed magnificently throughout to take the event. St Edward's School, Oxford, were the fastest overall team and took two berths.

RESULTS: 1. Shrewsbury, 7 min 29 sec; 2. St. Edward's, 8 min 29 sec; 3. St. Edward's, 8 min 30 sec; 4. St. Edward's, 8 min 31 sec; 5. St. Edward's, 8 min 32 sec; 6. St. Edward's, 8 min 33 sec; 7. St. Edward's, 8 min 34 sec; 8. St. Edward's, 8 min 35 sec; 9. St. Edward's, 8 min 36 sec; 10. St. Edward's, 8 min 37 sec; 11. St. Edward's, 8 min 38 sec; 12. St. Edward's, 8 min 39 sec; 13. St. Edward's, 8 min 40 sec; 14. St. Edward's, 8 min 41 sec; 15. St. Edward's, 8 min 42 sec; 16. St. Edward's, 8 min 43 sec; 17. St. Edward's, 8 min 44 sec; 18. St. Edward's, 8 min 45 sec; 19. St. Edward's, 8 min 46 sec; 20. St. Edward's, 8 min 47 sec; 21. St. Edward's, 8 min 48 sec; 22. St. Edward's, 8 min 49 sec; 23. St. Edward's, 8 min 50 sec; 24. St. Edward's, 8 min 51 sec; 25. St. Edward's, 8 min 52 sec; 26. St. Edward's, 8 min 53 sec; 27. St. Edward's, 8 min 54 sec; 28. St. Edward's, 8 min 55 sec; 29. St. Edward's, 8 min 56 sec; 30. St. Edward's, 8 min 57 sec; 31. St. Edward's, 8 min 58 sec; 32. 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SPORT

Tied Cottage leads all the way to help Carberry equal record

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

TO EVER INCREASING ROARS OF enthusiasm from the huge Irish contingent, Tied Cottage led the way to help Carberry equal his record in the final of the National Hunt Cup yesterday.

Running his second race in top class company in as many days, Carberry was far from disgraced, especially in the final of the National Hunt Cup which was the last of his season. Although I did not see it because my eyes were distracted by the fracas caused by Royal Mail and Jack of Hearts, Carberry made a sensible move to the finish but for that he would have finished much closer in the opinion of his trainer, Mick O'Connell.

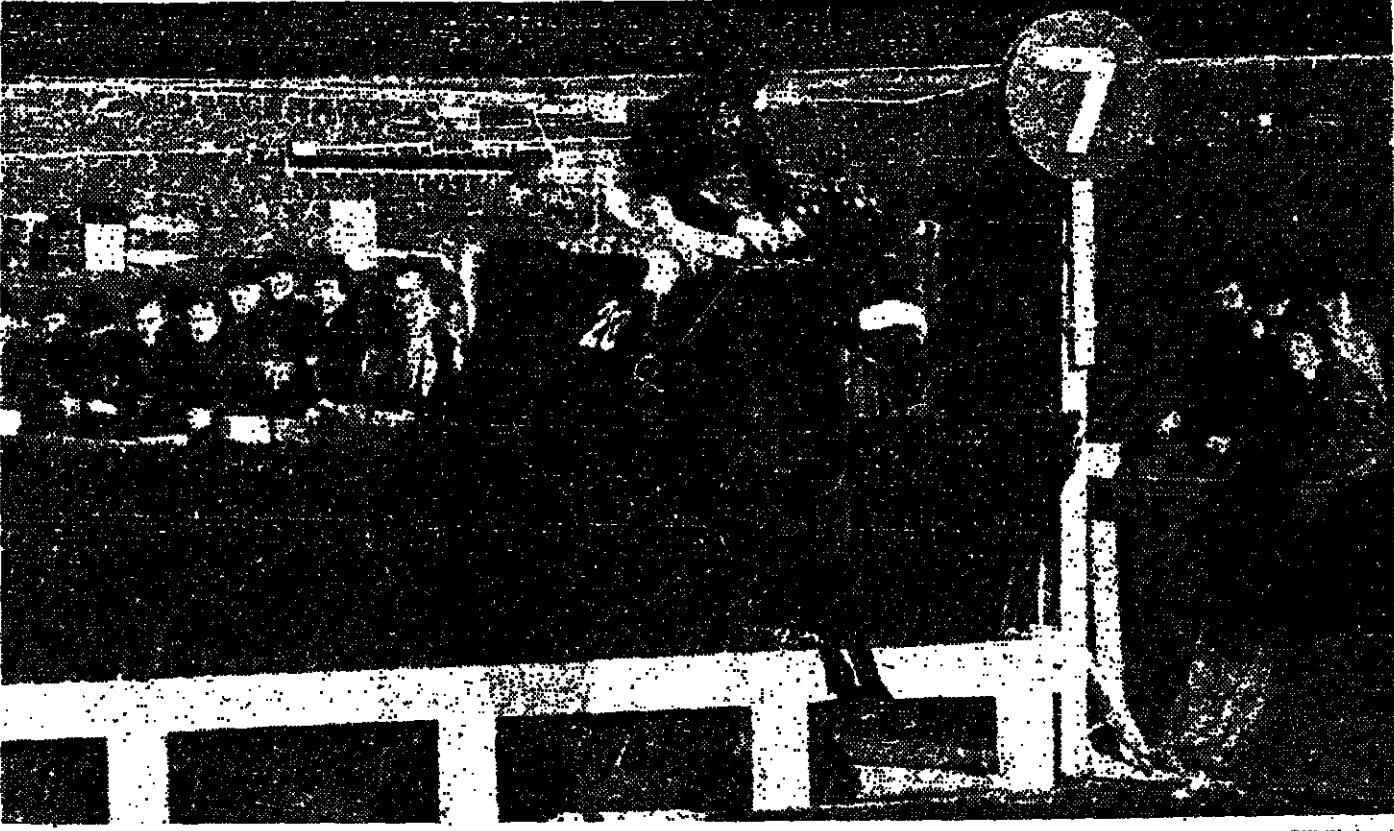
Talking of horses running twice in two days, King Weasel fared far better when he won the Cathcart Cup yesterday than he did in the first of his season. Wearing blinkers for the first time, King Weasel performed with a great deal more zest than he had in the previous days when he was completely outclassed by Carberry. Admittedly, the company was different this time but still he was good to see his enthusiasm rekindled. Here once again the luck that inevitably plays a huge part in National Hunt racing was a big factor. No sooner had Carberry made his move to the finish than he was overtaken by Royal Mail and Jack of Hearts. The latter, however, was not to be deterred and he won the race by a nose.

On ground that was testing, to say the least, he led the way to finish yesterday to give Tommy Carberry his fourth winning ride in the race thus enabling him to equal Pat Tait's record. When asked how he felt about the win, Carberry replied with a grin. "I can remember and I have a feeling that my age must have been going in reverse for a number of years in my own mind," he said. "Never matter. His performance yesterday was pure magic."

This then was something of a family triumph because Tied Cottage is trained by Carberry's father and mother-in-law, Mr and Mrs Moore. Sadly, Dan Moore, whose colourful character has been a feature of the National Hunt festival for so long, he died of cancer in 1975. He had won the Gold Cup in successive years at the beginning of his career and he had won two of his triumphs - the National Hunt Cup and the Gold Cup - yesterday.

On the other hand, Carberry's performance yesterday was pure magic. He was only a year old when he won the Gold Cup and he was only a year old when he won the National Hunt Cup. He was only a year old when he won the Gold Cup and he was only a year old when he won the National Hunt Cup.

On the other hand, Carberry's performance yesterday was pure magic. He was only a year old when he won the Gold Cup and he was only a year old when he won the National Hunt Cup. He was only a year old when he won the Gold Cup and he was only a year old when he won the National Hunt Cup.



Photograph by Bill Whitworth

Tied Cottage well ahead of the field as he clears the final fence where he fell last year.

Cheltenham results

2.15 (2.17) DAILY EXPRESS TRIUMPH HURDLE (4-y-o: £15,420)
Lucky Trio (P. Carberry), 11-0
Lucky Trio (P. Carberry), 11-0
Lucky Trio (P. Carberry), 11-0

2.45 (2.47) NATIONAL HUNT CUP (4-y-o: £15,420)
Lucky Trio (P. Carberry), 11-0
Lucky Trio (P. Carberry), 11-0
Lucky Trio (P. Carberry), 11-0

3.15 (3.17) COUNTY HURDLE (Handicap)
Lucky Trio (P. Carberry), 11-0
Lucky Trio (P. Carberry), 11-0
Lucky Trio (P. Carberry), 11-0

3.45 (3.47) NATIONAL HUNT CHASE (4-y-o: £15,420)
Lucky Trio (P. Carberry), 11-0
Lucky Trio (P. Carberry), 11-0
Lucky Trio (P. Carberry), 11-0

Cheltenham results (continued)

4.15 (4.17) CURRACH CHASE (Handicap: £1,387: 2m 4f)
Lucky Trio (P. Carberry), 11-0
Lucky Trio (P. Carberry), 11-0
Lucky Trio (P. Carberry), 11-0

4.45 (4.47) KILDEARE CHASE (Novices: Div 1: £1,293: 2m)
Lucky Trio (P. Carberry), 11-0
Lucky Trio (P. Carberry), 11-0
Lucky Trio (P. Carberry), 11-0

5.15 (5.17) SHAMROCK HURDLE (Novices: £2,112: 2m 4f)
Lucky Trio (P. Carberry), 11-0
Lucky Trio (P. Carberry), 11-0
Lucky Trio (P. Carberry), 11-0

5.45 (5.47) ST PATRICK CHASE (4-y-o: £1,483: 3m)
Lucky Trio (P. Carberry), 11-0
Lucky Trio (P. Carberry), 11-0
Lucky Trio (P. Carberry), 11-0

Chepstow programme

2.15 SHANNON HURDLE (Selling: 4-y-o: £514: 2m)
Lucky Trio (P. Carberry), 11-0
Lucky Trio (P. Carberry), 11-0
Lucky Trio (P. Carberry), 11-0

2.45 KILDEARE CHASE (Novices: Div 1: £1,293: 2m)
Lucky Trio (P. Carberry), 11-0
Lucky Trio (P. Carberry), 11-0
Lucky Trio (P. Carberry), 11-0

3.15 CORRIE HURDLE (4-y-o: £1,224: 2m)
Lucky Trio (P. Carberry), 11-0
Lucky Trio (P. Carberry), 11-0
Lucky Trio (P. Carberry), 11-0

3.45 ST PATRICK CHASE (4-y-o: £1,483: 3m)
Lucky Trio (P. Carberry), 11-0
Lucky Trio (P. Carberry), 11-0
Lucky Trio (P. Carberry), 11-0

Chepstow selections

By Our Racing Correspondent

2.15 Lady Columbus. 2.45 Sheer Silk. 3.15 Sky Rider. 3.45 Young Pretender. 4.15 Kilmorie. 4.45 Indred. 5.15 Wayward Lad.

Plucky Heighlin takes advantage of fall

By Michael Seely

Peter Easterby was robbed of almost certain victory in the Daily Express Triumph Hurdle at Cheltenham yesterday. However, the horse that crashed to the ground at the final flight when two lengths clear of his rivals was not the 4 to 1 favourite, Gleason, but the 28 to 1 outsider, Starline. This left Bettsia clear of Heighlin and Mounsey. Putting in a storming run on the flat, Steve Jobar and Heighlin collared the lead close to home to win an exciting race by a short head.

Starline, who came from a long way back at halfway, finished third a further three lengths away. Tommy Carmody, Starline's rider, might have been before the only did the four-year-old hamper Bettsia on the run to the last, he also crossed the eventful winner as he jumped the hurdle. However, at credit must go to Heighlin for a plucky display as he was almost brought to a standstill when Starline fell. The three most fancied horses, Gleason, Bettsia and Heighlin, only finished to deceive, all three ending up after having every chance racing down the hill. Heighlin, the early leader, also dropped back quickly at the second last, leaving Bettsia in the lead.

Heighlin gave David Elsworth, the Salisbury trainer, the most important access of his career since he took out a licence in 1978. The gelding was bought for £4,000 from Henry Candy at the Newmarket autumn sales for horses out of training. I've always been a horse, said Elsworth, and I've bought Heighlin specially to win this race. The owners backed him to 66 to 1. The trainer concluded by saying that Heighlin was unlikely to run over again. Heighlin was a gelding, but the Great Metropolitan Handicap at Epsom might be the next time on the flat.

The stewards were in action against the race. Joe Byrne, the jockey on Bettsia, was referred to the stewards for giving aid or assistance to the horse. Byrne was fined £50 for the offence. The stewards also referred to the jockey on Heighlin, who rode him in the race, for giving aid or assistance to the horse. Heighlin was fined £50 for the offence.

Wolverton wins in style

From Desmond Stoneham
French Racing Correspondent

Paris, March 13

Wolverton, first runner of the year for Alec Headland today's group Prix Edmond Blanc at Saint-Cloud in a style which suggests the colt will have an extremely successful 1980. Racing on ground, which at best could be described as bottomless, Wolverton defeated the Aga Khan's Kaldoun by a half length. The latter was a half length away from Wolverton, who was a half length away from Kaldoun, who was a half length away from Wolverton.

Rugby League London schools compete in BARLA 'sevens'

By Keith Macklin

Despite the obstacles provided by geographical isolation and entrenched Rugby Union prejudices, Rugby League is being played at serious competitive level in schools of the London-London Education Authority. This fact, which is a source of pride to the school authorities, is a source of pride to the school authorities.

Stenmark takes chance to make a point

By Michael Phillips

Stenmark, March 13—Ingemar Stenmark went into today's men's World Cup giant slalom with the aim of having a good time, and he did so at the expense of his fellow competitors, who were completely outclassed. Stenmark, who conceded the World Cup to Andreas Wenzel of Liechtenstein earlier this week, had already won his first quota of championship points in this discipline before today.

Stenmark: no peer in the giant slalom, even though World Cup has gone

By Michael Phillips

Stenmark, in slalom, took the title by virtue of downhill placings at Val Gardena (15th), Kitzbühel (4th) and Lake Louise (5th). Ironically, Stenmark could possibly have won the World Cup had he picked up combined points at Lake Louise, Alberta, Canada. Maybe next year he will decide to make his belated debut in World Cup downhill and gain his just reward.

Horse trials First appearance of Range Rover team at Aldon Park

By Pamela Macgregor-Morris

The horse trials season, which should be a build-up for Moscow, opens this weekend at Crookham, near Aldershot, when 160 bright novices take the field in four sections. The first of these is a further four on Saturday, when the veterans' class includes Gerd Wittig, Germany's world champion, and the former European champion, Richard Meade, who is riding a horse named Kildare.

Waltine will not send Palace to sleep

By Michael Phillips

Great Britain's Olympic squad player Steve Walters, assuming that he keeps a tighter rein on his temper, is expected to be a major opponent in tomorrow's final of the World Cup. Walters, who is a member of the England national football team, is expected to be a major opponent in tomorrow's final of the World Cup.

For the record

Tennis: World Championships, Wimbledon, 1979. Men's singles: Bjorn Borg (Sweden) def. Jimmy Connors (USA). Women's singles: Chris Evert (USA) def. Martina Navratilova (Czechoslovakia).

Basketball

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Boston Celtics def. Houston Rockets 106-90. Los Angeles Lakers def. Portland Trail Blazers 106-90.

Ice hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Edmonton Oilers def. Quebec Nordiques 5-2. Philadelphia Flyers def. New York Islanders 4-3.

Defender gets call

Margaret Linter has been recalled to the England defence for the women's hockey international against Ireland in Dublin on March 23 because of the unavailability of Linda Carr, of Hightown.

Syndicate record

Lexington, March 13—Spectacular Bid, last year's Kentucky Derby winner, has been syndicated for \$24,000 at Claiborne Farm here for a record \$2.5m.

Boxing

ROSTOCK: Amateur international. Germany beat USSR 5-0.

Badminton

FARNBOROUGH: England 3, Malaysia 0.

Football

BRISTOL: Olympic qualifying tournament. Italy 5, Turkey 1.

Michael Shanks on this year's reshaping of the EEC commission

Who follows Mr Jenkins into the chair?

The visitor to Brussels today finds the European Commission in the middle of one of its periodic bouts of dissecting its own navel. A new president has to be designated by mid-summer. He then has six months to put in place, with the member-governments, a new commission. In the meantime decisions have to be made, and are being taken on the structure of the commission following the recommendations of the Spierenburg report, with the object of making the commission a more effective organization in an enlarged Community of 12 nations.

It cannot be said that the exercise is starting well. The question of the presidency, on which so much else depends, is still wide open. It is unlikely, though not impossible, that Mr Roy Jenkins will be asked to serve a further term. The countries which have not so far provided a president are Luxembourg, Ireland and Denmark. The previous president from the Netherlands, Dr Mansholt, occupied the chair for only a brief period after the premature departure of the Italian president, Signor Ciriaco De Mita, to the Dutch car, and do claim the right to a full presidency.

Since the convention the presidency has come to be a four-year affair (originally it was a two-year appointment), and since everyone agrees that the president should be given more powers, the choice is crucial. Indeed, Mr Jenkins' presidency has made it more so. His one unquestioned achievement in a somewhat patchy record has been to elevate the standing of the commission president to something near equality with the major heads of state in the EEC. This has been no mean achievement, but it is not clear whether it is a personal eminence or one which can be transmitted to his successor.

At the moment the front runners are, in this order of likelihood, Mr Gaston Thorn of Luxembourg, Dr Barend Blesbeuvel of the Netherlands, and Mr Finn Olav Gundelach of Denmark. There appears to be no credible Irish candidate, and in any case there would probably be a good deal of hostility to two Anglophone presidents in succession.

Mr Gaston Thorn is a former prime minister of the Grand Duchy, a highly experienced and flexible politician with an



Presidential front-runners: Mr Finn Olav Gundelach, Dr Barend Blesbeuvel and Mr Gaston Thorn.

impeccable background as a European federalist. The greatest risk he faces is a French veto to this relations with President Giscard d'Estaing are not particularly good. Dr Blesbeuvel is also a former prime minister, and would probably prove a more abrasive and tougher president than Mr Thorn.

Mr Gundelach, the present commissioner for agriculture, would be a quite different president: a technocrat rather than a politician, a man who knows the workings of the commission inside out—he has been a commissioner since 1973, and before that was an international civil servant. He would probably be much better than Mr Jenkins has been at administering the commission bureaucracy, but it is doubtful whether he would be accorded the same respect among the world's leaders and member-governments, and while a dedicated and highly effective commissioner his relations with colleagues and subordinates are not always very amicable.

So the choice of president will determine to a considerable extent the style of the next commission. This brings us to the Spierenburg report,

commissioned by Mr Jenkins to advise on the appropriate structure of the commission in the light of the impending admission of Greece, Portugal and Spain. The key Spierenburg recommendation was that the number of commissioners should be cut to one from each country—at present Britain, France, West Germany and Italy have two each—and that there should be a corresponding rationalization of directorates-general and all the services reporting to them.

The commission has welcomed the report, and wants to start implementing it straight away. Unfortunately the central decision—the number of commissioners per country—has to be taken by the European Council (the three-yearly meeting of heads of state of the EEC). The present gossip in Brussels suggests that the council will agree the issue, agreeing in principle that no country should have more than one commissioner but delaying the implementation to the Spanish accession, which effectively means until 1984. Thus the next commission will be the last to operate under the present structure.

There is a superficial logic

about this solution. It solves the tricky issue of whether Spain would be entitled to two commissioners or one—nobody suggests that Greece or Portugal should have more than one each—and it puts off the awkward moment for the Big Four. But it also effectively negates the other elements of the Spierenburg report which flow from it. At present the commission is busy trying to regroup its services into fewer units and cutting a good deal of disaffection and adverse morale in the process, as officials see their little autonomous empires submerged in larger groups, and their promotion prospects blocked.

If there is no rationalization at the top, however, the main purpose of this reorganization will be lost. The problem is that there is really not enough work for the commission to provide 12 (15 with Greece and Portugal) commissioners with visible separate departments. So a significant part of the commission's present activities is influenced by the need to create work for under-employed commissioners.

The alternative solution is for some of the commissioners (for example, the second commissioner from the Big Four coun-

tries) to serve in effect as a junior minister assisting his over-worked colleague in one or other of the major departments, such as agriculture or external relations. This concept of a "two-tier commission" as a means of rationalizing the commission's work was an alternative rejected by the Spierenburg committee in favour of the "cleaner" solution of one commissioner per country. But it could be resurrected as an interim measure if the council delays the change mooted by Spierenburg for four years. Otherwise the impetus provided by Spierenburg could well be wasted.

But of course such an interim solution affects the choice of commissioners to be made over the coming months, and if it wants to influence member-governments to go down this route the commission will need to move fast. There is no indication at present whether this is likely to happen, and meanwhile the commission is entering the "lame-duck" period when commissioners start to lose credibility and interest in the job, as they anticipate for reappointment or start looking for other employment. It is in this period that the authority of the presi-

dent in particular starts to fade.

Nor can it be said, after its dramatic rejection of the budget, that the Parliament has done much to fill the gap left by the commission's declining size. Indeed, latest indications suggest that Europe's farm lobbies have moved swiftly and effectively to save the common agricultural policy from the kind of cuts implied by the outcome of the budget debate, and indicated in the revised budget presented to parliament by the commission.

It seems clear that a substantial number of parliamentarians are now prepared to back away from the implications of their budget vote, by trying to divorce the budget from the question of farm incomes. One can understand the pressure to which members from rural constituencies must be subject, but logic must count for something. It is indisputable the Common Agricultural Policy which is driving the commission towards bankruptcy.

The choices are fairly clear. Either Parliament votes more money in the budget to underwrite the escalating costs of the CAP—which it has refused to do—or the community cuts back on its non-agricultural spending (regional fund, social fund, research, etc.)—to which everybody is opposed—or ways have to be found of cutting the cost of farm support. Otherwise the commission will run out of funds some time in 1981.

The best way out of this dilemma by far would be for the community institutions to focus their attention on protecting the incomes of the poorer farmers, which do not involve the consumer having to subsidize the production of ever-larger surpluses of foodstuffs that nobody wants. An incidental benefit of such a change of policy is that it would go a long way towards solving the perennial problem of the British budget contribution (about which nobody outside the United Kingdom seems to be concerned himself unduly: the Thatcher magic does not seem to work very well in the chambers of Europe).

It is a great pity, when there are so many vital issues for the future of Europe at stake, that the commission is so poorly placed—through no fault of its own—to give a lead.

Geoffrey Smith

The social goals that count

"The social democratic approach to the economic, social, cultural and political problems of the day has exhausted its strength", writes Professor Ralf Dahrendorf in a stimulating and provocative pamphlet to be published next Wednesday.

He makes it clear that he is not referring simply to the intellectual plight of what has become known as the social democratic wing of the Labour Party. He has in mind the reaction against the consensus according to which most western countries have, to a greater or lesser extent, been governed in the postwar years: belief in a welfare state; a mixed economy; consensually numerous rules, regulations and policies; greater equality, particularly of opportunity; and a generally activist government that would seek to deal with whatever problems arose, economic and social.

That there is a reaction against it is evident not just from the defeat of the Labour Government in Britain or even the exclusion from office over the past three-and-a-half years of the Social Democrats in Sweden, the citadel of European social democracy. Still more important is the wave of

feeling in many countries against big government and expensive public programmes. This is epitomized by the strength of Mr Mogens Glistrup's Progress Party in Denmark and by the passing of Proposition 13 in California.

There are a number of reasons for this reaction. The end of the era of rapid economic growth has made it harder to pay for the social benefits and other government programmes, which have required not just higher taxation to pay for them but also an extensive bureaucracy to administer them. The process of government has been overloaded by expectations. Professor Dahrendorf also refers to what he terms a revolt against reason.

I would put it rather differently. It is not a belief in the value of reasoning that is a distinguishing feature of social democracy but the value of pursuing specific social objectives through a process of col-

lective reasoning. There is much in this that is attractive to the British temperament, with its instinctive faith in the magical properties of a table if only sufficient people of good-will can be gathered around it. But it assumes a more widespread attachment to social goals than may always be the case. It may consequently fail to make sufficient account of the selfish, competitive, acquisitive and aggressive forces in society.

Experience with incomes policy is a case in point. This is quintessentially a social democratic instrument. It was broken under Mr Callaghan, even though a large majority of the general public still approved of such a policy in principle, because it could not accommodate such forces in the form of pressure for differentiation and a simple desire to get ahead of the game.

The right-wing alternative, by contrast, takes account of these

forces by seeking either to subject them to the disciplines of the market or to harness their energy for the common good. Adam Smith's "guiding hand" is thus in keeping with social trends at a time of greater individualism and group assertiveness. For that reason I would give this approach a distinctly better chance than Professor Dahrendorf, who believes that it is at best likely to fail; at worst it will create havoc in industry and the political community, compared to which a temporary confrontation with the miners was but a parlour game.

He is looking beyond social democracy to new horizons where economic affairs are no longer the centre of the lives of individual lives and public policies. I find this inherently improbable, given his assumption of continuing low growth. To seek "the reconstruction of human lives so that employment is but one of a sequence of activities which provide

meaning and opportunity for personal growth" might be the most civilized course in conditions of low economic growth. But I suspect that here he is making the same mistake as the social democrats in overestimating the public willingness to proceed rationally towards social goals.

If economic growth is low then attempts to raise it will be the first political priority. The natural effect will be to intensify competition between countries and within them. This will be followed by more intense argument over the distribution of the limited product—a process that will be less elevated than the reconstruction of human lives. It is when there is abundance that economic issues are more likely to slip down the agenda.

When there is shortage, economic anxieties will predominate. If these cannot be relieved by right-wing measures then there will be a swing

either to an administration of the farthest left—seeking to achieve public goals by greater government ownership and control—or a return to social democracy. If it is the latter, then the touchstone will be incomes policy, possibly supported by import controls.

The more one looks at the social democrats the more one feels that the logic of their position requires them to develop a more elaborate mechanism for incomes policy. They must seek to provide greater flexibility between the earnings of one group of workers and another. Such a system would be conceivably more lasting than the makeshift quasiflexibilities that have been pressed into service as incomes policies in the past.

I suspect that it is only if the right-wing alternative succeeds that social democracy will really have been discarded. Otherwise we may in due course see some similar policy in modern dress.

After Social Democracy by Ralf Dahrendorf, Unservile State Paper, No 25. Liberal Publications Department, 9 Poland Street, W1. (50p).

Reading the small print on the West Bank

The autonomy negotiations between Egypt and Israel, with American participation, to decide on an interim regime for the West Bank and Gaza are limping feebly, in contrast to the robust progress of the parallel arrangements for normalization of bilateral relations.

Their condition has provoked the former Israeli Foreign Minister, Mr Abba Eban, to weigh in with a devastating analysis in the *Jerusalem Post* that at the end of a five-year transition the West Bank and Gaza will be completely free from the Israel whereas the whole point of Camp David language was to achieve the final objective in waters of total obscurity.

Mr Eban comments that "full" autonomy was Mr Begin's own phrase. "This implies," he writes, "that there are varying degrees of autonomy and that Mr Begin favours the highest degree of autonomy that the word can signify or sustain."

The joint letter speaks of the military government and its civilian administration being "withdrawn" and being "replaced by the self-governing authority." Some Israeli troops will go on to be redeployed "into specific security locations."

Mr Eban then looks at the Israeli model of autonomy which has been produced in the negotiations. It is a device, he says, "designed to be exercised by Israel and those shared between the two."

To the former Foreign Minister, with his linguistic powers of linguistic analysis, the idea of a military administration "co-existing with that which replaces it" after its "withdrawal" is "a mystery beyond the power of the English language to solve."

The main political objection to the Israeli model is that, should it prevail, there would be no incentive for a distinctively West Bank Palestinian leadership to emerge. It would be a "mystery beyond the power of the English language to solve."

Mr Eban's view, "to maintain full control of land, water, security, ultimate judiciary and all legislation," is a denial of the autonomy, says any external emblem of a hood or any form of ena-

And Avraham Shalev, writing in *Haaretz*, describes the expected appointment—confirmed—of Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Speaker and former leader of the Stern group as the new Foreign Minister. Begin regards the second of his premiership period of absolute No. 2.

The impression is strengthened by a settlement policy planning Israeli colonies—of the new Knesset Minister, Mr Yehoshua Katsav, remark "There is no contradiction between the necessity to drastically the government budget and the need to allow large sums to the colonists of Judea and Samaria."

For years Soviet ideology has encouraged women to work and has boasted of their high participation rates in the labour force. But the need for women's work in the home is now regarded as a social evil, and the Soviet economy cannot spare its women workers. Respectable rates of economic growth have been made possible in recent years only by adding as many women and pensioners to the labour force as possible. To shed labour now would aggravate a situation which is becoming increasingly grim as the effects of the fall in the birth-rate begin to bite.

The other difficulty is that Soviet women cannot afford not to work. As prosperity rises, so does consumer demand. The average family can no longer

enjoy what is considered normal standard of living on salary of the men alone. As in the West, women rise the boredom of being home bound, especially when other women are working.

Various solutions have been put forward: more part-time work, more flexible working hours, higher family allowances, greater mechanization of housework, more self-service shops to cut shopping time, two-year leave after childbirth instead of the present one year, and so on. But none of these is a long way off.

To encourage women to have more children also depends on improved housing. Millions of new flats have been built in recent years. But many of these are of poor quality, and one child, and abortion is still readily available to prevent a second arriving.

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Why women are joining the protesters

Last week Russia honoured its women. On March 8, as every year, there were tributes in the press, speeches in the Kremlin and flowers for the wives to mark International Women's Day. The holiday has become an annual acknowledgement by the majority of the men to the essential role played by women, who outnumber men by a larger proportion in the Soviet Union than in any other country, in keeping the wheels of industry turning.

But the Russians are becoming increasingly worried that the price their women have to pay is intolerable. Women's lives are exhausting, the demands are impossible to satisfy; the result is that fewer and fewer are able or willing to have more than one child.

Women's liberation is scorned in the country. It is granted women full legal equality many years ago. But Soviet women are beginning to demand real changes, and the press now publishes their letters of frustration and near despair almost daily.

"I have two children," a woman from Kishinyov wrote recently. "I work as a senior engineer and my husband is also an engineer. I get back from work about seven o'clock in the evening and leave in the morning, so that I am not at home practically all day, except for days off."

There's no time or strength for a smile or a kind word. You get to bed after half the night and your head doesn't even touch the pillow before you're asleep. You get up in

the morning a little bit earlier so as to be able just to look at yourself for a moment in the mirror before hurrying off to work."

Russians are beginning to see that three striking sets of statistics, all fully detailed in the Soviet press, are inter-related.

Women account for more than half the total Soviet labour force: 92 per cent of all working-age women either work or study.

One in three of all marriages in the Soviet Union ends in divorce. Of all those married in 1977, a third had filed for divorce by the end of 1978.

The birthrate in the Russian republic has fallen to the point where 56 per cent of all couples, according to a recent survey, have only one child. Another 33 per cent have only two children, and six per cent have three. That means that 89 per cent of families in the most industrialized part of the country have fewer children than the replacement rate.

The Soviet authorities are worried by this dramatic fall in the birthrate. The part of the country where labour is most needed. Already there is a labour shortage, which officially will rapidly become more intense.

The central question now is: how can Soviet women be encouraged to have more children? What should be done to bolster the image of woman as mother?

Indeed some Soviet experts are beginning to suggest that the emancipation of women, at least their participation in full-time labour, has gone too far.

Strengthening the family is seen to be in direct conflict with the social and labour demands on the Soviet woman of today. For, as one woman said in a letter, women's

equality ends at 6 pm. House-keeping takes up four or five hours every day—far longer in the Soviet Union, with the lack of modern amenities and long queues in shops, than in the West. And as housing improves, the old people who used to live with their children are no longer there to help.

A woman gave a good example of this in a letter to a paper last month: "One morning I went out for milk with my little baby in a pram. In our town milk is sold from churns on the street beside the shop. There was a queue."

"I asked them to let me have milk for the baby without having to wait. Everyone called out: 'Why don't you get up earlier? Have they really forgotten how little sleep you get

when you have a baby? I went away without the milk, and so in the evening my husband had to skip his classes and go and get some."

But usually Soviet men do little to help. "In principle socialist society opposed the social inequality of women. But traditions are still quite strong and they impede a fair division of family labour and responsibilities between the sexes," a Soviet professor wrote some months ago.

He found that in 61 per cent of Soviet families women did all the shopping, compared with 3 per cent in which men did; in 64 per cent they always prepared dinner (men 4 per cent); in 64 per cent they did all the washing and ironing (men 2 per cent). In the remaining families household tasks were shared, with children and aged persons also helping, but the burden generally fell on women.

Housework takes so long because only 15 per cent is mechanized compared with 80 per cent in the United States. In the Soviet Union refrigerators, washing machines and vacuum cleaners account for 60 per cent of all electric appliances, against only 35 per cent in America.

The result is that women do not have time to cope with more than one child. As it is, another survey found the time that working mothers could devote to their children was only one-twelfth of the time they spent doing housework and one-eighth of the time spent cooking meals.

The main reason many women give for not having more children is the lack of proper facilities where the young ones can be left. Nursery schools are so overcrowded that they are becoming increasingly affected by illness, and working women find it diffi-

cult to get time off to look after sick children.

Many mothers say that because conditions in nursery schools are so unsatisfactory that they prefer to look after their children full time more than at home. Nowadays the traditional arrangement of a living-in grandmother is changing as old people move into flats of their own. There are no baby-sitters and a mother has to stop work to look after her child.

In spite of pre-war flirtations with theories of communal families and the state care of children, Soviet educationists have found and frequently stated in recent months that nothing can replace the family: the fount of all culture and education and the socializing agent that teaches love, respect, values and healthy social attitudes.

Some economists have tried to work out the monetary value of Soviet women's work in the home; to replace them with state services would mean hiring 150,000 million people at a cost of 150,000 million roubles (£120,000 million) a year.

But the present campaign to upgrade the status and value of women's work in the home runs into difficulties. Firstly, the Soviet economy cannot spare its women workers. Respectable rates of economic growth have been made possible in recent years only by adding as many women and pensioners to the labour force as possible. To shed labour now would aggravate a situation which is becoming increasingly grim as the effects of the fall in the birth-rate begin to bite.

The other difficulty is that Soviet women cannot afford not to work. As prosperity rises, so does consumer demand. The average family can no longer

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PILING ON THE PRESSURE

Nothing that has happened since Soviet tanks rolled into Afghanistan on Boxing Day and a boycott of the Moscow games was first mooted makes it any more fitting that the Olympics should be celebrated in that city this summer, if they are, that British athletes should participate. On the contrary, Russia's military aggression in Afghanistan continues unabated, and its dissidents at home are being harassed more intensively, either in connection with the Olympic preparations in Moscow or otherwise.

In Britain a heavy weight of public opinion has gathered behind the call for boycott—the government, the Archbishop of Canterbury, most of Fleet Street, the commercial sponsors—but the debate is not yet resolved. The athletes—most of them—and their representatives hold firmly to their view that participation in the games at Moscow does not imply on their part any endorsement of Soviet policy, foreign or domestic, nor does it imply any lack on their part of the common feelings of revulsion at the actions for which the Soviet Union is condemned. Ministers insist that it is not what the athletes intend, their presence in Moscow to signify or not signify that matters, but what they would make of it and in particular what the Russians could make of it for propaganda purposes.

Spokesmen for the athletes now make two complaints: that they are being unfairly singled out and used as political pawns; and that having earlier been told that they could be put under no coercion, the Government, they now feel that they are. That they are being singled out is true, but not fairly. The Government-supervised rupture with Moscow is a rupture with Moscow, not a rupture with the Russians. Diplomatic intercourse remains normal; trade, except in certain sensitive categories, continues to be encouraged. The athletes were not in the firing line because so happened that they were out to join in something out of which Russia was poised to take a huge propaganda meal, the collapse of which would be a slap in Russia's face for all to see.

As for coercion, that must be understood to involve threats or

penalties or legal compulsion. Nothing which has been done so far answers to that, with the possible exception of the directives concerning civil servants and the armed forces which appear to mean that any selected for the Olympics might be put in a position of being able to accept only by breaching their terms of service. But, short of coercion, the Government is undoubtedly putting strong and increasing pressure on athletes and their representatives to conform to its wishes. It has lifted the question of attendance at the Moscow games to the level of a matter of state. It has indicated where the national interest lies, and it expects responsible citizens to act accordingly.

This is a rather unexpected position for a Conservative government to have reached. The arrangement of sporting fixtures, considered by itself, is pretty plainly not one of those matters the Thatcher state would wish to make its own business. Not many days ago Mrs Thatcher was expounding, in her Alrey Neave memorial lecture, her philosophy of the self-restricting state, strong in its own sphere, but scrupulous not to encroach every kind of public, let alone private, affair. It was the first principle of her ministry to revive the individual's sense of responsibility for his own life and decisions. It was their ambition "to re-invigorate not just the economy and industry but the whole body of voluntary associations, localities and activities which give society its richness and diversity, and hence its real strength." The state should not appear in the guise of "a loquacious and tedious companion at every stage of life's journey." (Sir Denis Flowers, wedded to his own point of view, might be forgiven for supposing that he had found just such a companion for this stretch of his life's journey.)

If the Prime Minister's political action appears to be a bit at odds with her philosophy it is easy to see why. When she promptly and heartily endorsed President Carter's decision to make the destruction of the Moscow games a part of the West's diplomatic response to the Soviet Union's

seizure and continuing occupation of Afghanistan, that particular sporting fixture became willy-nilly a counter to foreign policy—something which the Russians for their part had always regarded it as. The move having been made, it becomes a matter of great importance that it be successfully followed through. For governments in the free world to declare a boycott and for their Olympic competitors, being free men and women, to decide otherwise would be damaging to the western diplomatic offensive, for all that it would exemplify the reality of the freedom which this part of the world claims for its political societies. So the question of participation in the games becomes a matter of state, and the Government, not at first getting the answer it wants, is driven to move from persuasion to pressure, until the athletes—though so far mistakenly—cry "coercion." The Government should be very careful indeed not to proceed to a point at which the complaint is justified.

The Commons debate which the Government has arranged for Monday is another turn of the screw. A debate with little dissent from the motion followed by an overwhelming vote in its favour would carry an authority which, in all the circumstances, it would be hard indeed to resist. When President Carter announced his conditional boycott and his Secretary of State asserted, a little rashly it seemed at the time, that if the Government expressed its view "our citizens will follow that view", both houses of Congress stepped in to help Mr Vance's words come true by recording landslide majorities, close to unanimity, in support of a boycott. It cannot be taken for granted that things will be quite like that on Monday night. A motion condemning the Russian regime for its international and domestic crimes would unite the Commons almost to a man. A motion calling on our Olympic athletes to stay away in order to serve that purpose may stir eddies of debate and achieve less than total support, because of an uneasy feeling that to meet a totalitarian challenge our own customary and non-totalitarian delimitation of the spheres of operation of the state and its citizens may be shifted.

Loss of the radiotherapy department means much more than loss of equipment and minor inconvenience. Its major impact will be the effective loss of radiotherapists from the Hospital, with consequent loss of input in making multidisciplinary therapeutic decisions. If these staff are not physically on the premises, then even if they are based nearby, they will not be used fully in a day-to-day consultative capacity, and patients with cancer will be the ultimate losers.

Whatever the future holds in cancer treatment, there is absolutely no question that at present and in at least the near future, irradiation is a therapeutic option. To deny any group easy, in-house access to radiotherapeutic equipment and radiotherapists is to deny patients

decisions taken in company with the Americans. Certainly no wholesale reversal of policy on Pakistan's part seems to have been intended. Obviously events in Afghanistan have made an already nervous and somewhat unstable military government, weighed down by a serious refugee problem and subject to continuous allegations of subversive military intentions against the Afghans and their Russian friends, rather more blunt in its public comment than need be. The point having been made that Pakistan wants to make its own political choices in circumstances that affect its own internal stability, both sides are now reconsidering their position. Mr Warren's Christchurch speech was plain yesterday from the American side.

Pakistan sees economic aid as the first priority and talks are being resumed on this as a separate package from any military aid, the justification for which Pakistan is still assessing as events in Afghanistan unfold and as their own contacts with the Russians may suggest. At all events non-alignment will remain the starting point of Pakistan's thinking in the company of almost all the Islamic states towards which Pakistan looks for smooth and understanding. The first agreed stand urgent move in the Afghanistan crisis out of the way the fresh discussions between America and Pakistan will start from a better mutual understanding and the allaying of the worst suspicions on both sides. Even Mrs Gandhi's temperature should not rise unduly at the thought of increased economic aid going to her neighbour.

elderly to be created. As a result of constant weekday use of the centre it will probably be possible for the doors to the church to be kept open throughout the week, with much less fear of vandalism. Perhaps church buildings in town centres elsewhere could profitably be shared during the week to widespread advantage. Yours faithfully, JOHN SMALL, 3 Windesham Gardens, Brighton, March 10.

Heating and sleeping

From Mr P. B. Soul
Sir, Mrs M. K. Churcher (March 8) advises old-age pensioners to seek the warmth of the various public buildings that are overheat at their expense. Berkshire pensioners would be wise to avoid their local public libraries: the County Council recently decided that a £20 fine shall be demanded of those who fall asleep over the books that have been bought at their expense. Yours faithfully, P. B. SOUL, 11 Lakeside, Ealing, Reading, Berkshire, March 8.

could rely on from their many friends in the Islamic world; suggesting further that Pakistan could quite well reach its own modus vivendi with the Soviet Union; and that in any case his country had come round to accept a policy of non-alignment and was not going to be pushed off that course by hurried decisions taken in Washington and brought ready-made for Pakistan's acceptance.

This seemed to put Pakistan's No to Washington in the context of a revised foreign policy, going almost as far as to insist that whatever alignments Pakistan did accept it was not likely to be one with the Americans. Needless to say, if this was what was meant it was most disturbing to the Americans. But it was equally possible to regard Mr Akbar's remarks and General Zia's speech as no more than a tactic to extricate from the Americans a rather better offer than the one which Mr Brezhnev brought ready-made in his briefcase. The truth is probably in neither of these interpretations. The pride and the resentment are certainly present in Pakistan's reply. What also needs to be understood is that Afghanistan is a country that has been filling the files in Pakistan's foreign ministry for decades and that the Soviet role in that country is nothing new to Pakistan's calculations. If Afghanistan's claim to be a non-aligned country were to be reversed or was to recover its reality from the shock of a Soviet intrusion into its unstable political life, then Pakistan's own judgement as a recent but genuine convert to non-alignment deserved to be weighed in any

erect land
From Mr Adrian Stungo
Professor Chisholm's letter (arch 5) on why land is left unused is only part of the story. Of course steps need to be taken to prevent this practice and Professor Chisholm's suggestion that "rates be levied on empty plots" seems more practical than the powers proposed in Local Government Planning and Land Bill enabling the Secretary of State to compel registration of under-land. As things stand at present, the rating system actually gives an incentive for owners to leave land idle. Another practical question is that land should be put to some other use or else demolished and the site reclaimed. Why should the cost always fall on the general public and be met by the ratepayers rather than on the enterprise concerned?

The absence of such measures in the past has meant that vast tracts of land, often in the most socially and economically deprived areas, are left blighted and then deter new investment on account of the poor environment. Does this make economic sense? Yours faithfully, ADRIAN STUNGO, 27 Gayton Road, NW3, March 6.

Closed doors

From Mr J. C. Small
Sir, Mr Rose in his heartfelt letter (March 8) keeps churches open during the week when he writes that "the church had locked its doors" and "once again the vicar had won". I am Vicar's warden of a church in the centre of Hove which, frankly, has not the resources to provide permanent weekday surveillance in order to overcome this problem. We hope to provide facilities, in part of the church which are underused, for a day centre for the

Positive thinking for the fishing industry

From Commander M. B. F. Ranken
Sir, your second leader (March 11) describes the past decade as disastrous for the fishing industry, but this is only true in the context of what actually happened through everyone's refusal to look ahead towards establishing and enforcing a rational regime for conservation and management of fish stocks, something which the 200-mile exclusive fishing limits have made possible since 1977, first in European waters and since in many other countries' zones world-wide.

The distant water fisheries for bottom fish have been virtually extinguished, and in our own case this effectively destroys the full range of traditional large trawlers, but the inshore and near-water fisheries should be given a highly profitable new lease of life, and some middle-water vessels should also have a stable future. New species also need some of the latest processing vessels previously sailing from the Humber ports.

The present "EEC pond" in the Atlantic has an area of 525,000 square nautical miles, of which the United Kingdom share is about 52 per cent; when Spain and Portugal are added, as well as Greenland, the total is 1,420,000 square nautical miles. By careful management and control it is probably not wishful thinking to suggest a maximum sustainable yield for this area of 8-10 million tonnes of fish each year, of which the UK food fish share should certainly be the largest, mainly from above her 192,000 square nautical miles of continental shelf. Stable catches at these levels will surely provide secure livelihoods for our fishermen, but only if a rational CFP (Common Fisheries Policy) is enacted and enforced, so that the fish can be landed at prices acceptable on the market, remembering

that the fish industry on land is not in the least concerned with the origins of its raw materials—home landings or imports.

Redeployment and restructuring of the fishing fleet is imperative and urgent, and it is unthinkable that this strategic reserve of fishermen and their boats should be left to founder and disappear, while the politicians and bureaucrats go on disagreeing about the CFP, and fish stocks continue at risk of major decline. At least 25,000 fishermen's livelihoods are at stake in the larger boats, well over 100,000 of our coastal population, quite apart from many shore jobs in handling, processing and supporting roles. James Johnson's suggestion of a levy on imported fish to sustain our own fleet is a reasonable interim measure, and might perhaps help to hasten agreement on a practical CFP aimed at effective scientific management of the stocks on a community basis, coupled with co-operative national surveillance and enforcement using sensible aircraft and ships, and enough of them. It was inappropriate and very expensive ships that let us down off Iceland, not poor seamanship. Many of us questioned the appropriateness of our existing patrol vessels, and even more so the still larger OPVs announced last week.

A healthy and profitable fishing industry at home could provide the base for joint ventures abroad and for worldwide exports of the right fishing and patrol vessels, aircraft, infrastructure and expertise now urgently needed to develop the important opportunities created by the new 200-mile exclusive fishing zones of very many developing countries, many of them in the Commonwealth.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL RANKEN,
28 Clare Lawn Avenue, SW14.

London medical schools

From Dr Leonard Weiss
Sir, I am writing to express my amazement at news of the recommendation that Westminster Hospital should lose its Radiotherapy Department and be downgraded to an annex of St Thomas's Hospital. This move will effectively destroy Westminster Hospital as a comprehensive cancer centre, in which patients are offered a full spectrum of diagnosis and treatment on an individual basis.

Loss of the radiotherapy department means much more than loss of equipment and minor inconvenience. Its major impact will be the effective loss of radiotherapists from the Hospital, with consequent loss of input in making multidisciplinary therapeutic decisions. If these staff are not physically on the premises, then even if they are based nearby, they will not be used fully in a day-to-day consultative capacity, and patients with cancer will be the ultimate losers.

Whatever the future holds in cancer treatment, there is absolutely no question that at present and in at least the near future, irradiation is a therapeutic option. To deny any group easy, in-house access to radiotherapeutic equipment and radiotherapists is to deny patients

Hand to hand

From Mr Esmond Warner
Sir, my father Sir Pelham Warner (1873-1963) remembered vividly his father (1803-1886) telling him of the excitement of the news of Waterloo; and my father lived long enough to tell this to our daughters (born 1946 and 1950) who, one hopes, will live to tell the tale well into the twenty-first century.

Never to be forgotten President Routh of Magdalen, nearly 100 in the 1850s, referred to "the late troubles"; he was speaking of "the glorious revolution" of 1688. I am, Sir, your obedient servant, ESMOND WARNER, Summer Hill, Leobworth, Cambridge, March 8.

Everest high-fliers

From Mr Martin Latham
Sir, Charles Warren (March 11) wonders how far up Everest choughs might go. I am, Sir, on the expedition from which Mallory and Irvine never returned, tells in the expedition account (The Fight for Everest: 1924) of these birds following him up to 27,000 ft with unwavering tenacity.

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN LATRAM,
49 Scarsdale Villas, W8.

From Mr John Parker
Sir, in answer to the query raised by Dr Charles Warren (March 12) I would refer him to the remarkable

Hawks v doves?

From Lord Waldegrave
Sir, Mr Ronald Faux's article (March 12) about conflict between rock climbers and peregrine falcons interested me greatly. During the last 40 years, he told us, the New York police had "moved on with gunfire" the falcons nesting on the "decimated" New York's pigeons.

The pigeons which perch on the heads and shoulders of the thirteenth-century statues on the West Front of Wells Cathedral, and even nest in their helmets and haloes, have, by their droppings, been responsible for much of the damage done to these statues, which will cost several million pounds to repair and conserve.

optimal treatment for their cancer. In addition to fostering bad medicine, the recommendation is ironic because under the leadership of such giants as Sir Ernest Rutherford and Sir Stanford Cade and their colleagues, Westminster Hospital provided one of the world's foremost examples of the multidisciplinary approach to cancer treatment. This inspired tradition, which provided me and many other former Westminster students with the impetus to specialize in cancer treatment and research is still present, and continues to provide a much-needed training resource. As an oncologist working in an internationally recognized centre, I think that I am qualified to make these judgments.

I would not presume to comment on priorities within the National Health Service or on the agonizing choices that must be made on general economic grounds. However, I feel strongly that the treatment of patients with cancer should not be subject to bureaucratic expediency. Yours faithfully, LEONARD WEISS, Chief Cancer Research Clinician, Roswell Park Memorial Institute, Buffalo, United States, February 27.

tree he had himself planted at Cowes in 1869. He sat in it every morning. He was able to say that he had known Napoleon II personally, for he used to meet the Emperor daily on the front at Cowes and Napoleon always stopped to talk to him. He could also say that his grandfather had danced a quadrille with Marie Antoinette. Thus was in 1785, four years before Dean Albert Baillie's great-uncle performed a similar Thespian feat. Her Majesty must have found young visitors from the British Isles attractive. My father's great-grandfather fought at Fontenoy and won Cumberland at Culloden. Your obedient servant, JOHN COLVILLE, The Old Rectory, Stratfield Saye, Reading, Berkshire, March 11.

From Professor Gareth Morris
Sir, The great pianist Edwin Fischer told me that he specially enjoyed playing the music of Bach because his grandfather (born 1749) "was as alive with him". Yours faithfully, GARETH MORRIS, 4 Alwyne Place, Canonbury, N1, March 10.

record of about 30 swans (probably whoopers, *Cygnus cygnus*) flying at over 27,000 feet over Scotland on December 9, 1967 (British Birds 71: 459-460 & 72: 238-239). The air temperature at the time was as low as -48°C.

It would therefore seem, that given suitable weather conditions, there is no reason why choughs and other soaring birds could not overfly Everest, since they expend less energy in flight than swans.

Whether, in fact, they do so is another question. Yours faithfully, JOHN PARKER, The Hawk Trust, Lorton Park, Shrewsbury, Shropshire.

I wonder if the New York police are currently gunning down any more hotel-loving peregrines in New York and, if so, whether they would consider arresting them instead and extraditing them to Wells, Somerset, England?

Many Americans are now most generously subscribing to the West Front Appeal. Some might be willing to send falcons instead of dollars. The peregrines would not be disturbed on the West Front because the Dean and Chapter do not allow rock climbing there.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant, WALDEGRAVE, President, Wells Cathedral West Front Appeal, Cheytown House, Cheytown Mendip, Bath, March 12.

Lessons from Zimbabwe elections

From The Very Reverend C. A. Shaw
Sir, Today's letter (March 12) from my friend the Bishop of Mashonaland does justice neither to reason nor to the facts. His argument appears to be that an election is fair provided its results suit you. Otherwise it is the result of intimidation.

This is to stand the electoral process on its head. The people of Rhodesia recorded their vote. The international community deemed it fair and free. If now the white population do not like the result that is just too bad. Certainly no doubt exists in anybody else's mind as to whom the people of Rhodesia think best able to lead their country through the immediate years of independence.

The Bishop reflects unfortunately the prevailing white view. All is the fault of the British. It was a complaint I heard incessantly during my years there, it conveniently ignored the fact that it was they themselves who brought their house in ruins upon their heads—and by their own hands. The Unilateral Declaration of Independence was the original folly and a brutal civil war the costly consequence.

Rhodesia's task now surely is not recommitment but a national determination to unravel and expiate that unnecessary, tragic foolishness for which all races have paid so dearly. His comparison with Northern Ireland is equally false and misleading. IRA terrorists have if anything stiffened British will to refuse to be coerced rather than the reverse. The third familiar stale unionist used persistently to frighten the whites into line is yet again repeated, a Communist take-over. It was used to frighten the whites and it is now apparently being used to scare the country's black voters.

If it is the Soviets the Bishop fears should he not be glad Mr Nikomo came out third? For Mr Mugabe's bogeyman he should surely be looking further East? Incidentally, I do not think his Mashonans will enjoy being called "droids".

The Bishop's letter is an awful object-lesson on the effects UDI has had on white thinking. I note it was written on March 5. Perhaps, before rushing into print, it would have been wiser had he awaited Mr Mugabe's first broadcast and

'Gone for a soldier'

From Mr G. A. B. King
Sir, I am surprised that the letter from Lord Harding (March 12) is the only one of protest you have published to date following Monday night's BBC 2 programme on the programme *Gone for a Soldier*.

I have never served in his or her Majesty's forces and have no personal position to defend. As a citizen, however, I consider the programme to have been a travesty of the truth, an insult to professional and non-professional British soldiers living and dead and both offensive and subversive.

In despair I begin to wonder whether this nation deserves its servicemen. Yours faithfully, G. A. B. KING, Carrick Lodge, 4 Russell Road, Moor Park, Northwood, Middlesex, March 12.

From Sir Robin Hooper
Sir, Mr Philip Donnellan is entitled to his views on the British Army (review, March 10); the BBC is entitled to broadcast them; and the brigades and parades are entitled to defend themselves. It is not unreasonable for them to ask why it was decided to allot nearly two hours of peak viewing time to a programme which, with all respect to your reviewer this morning, and whatever its artistic merits, was totally partisan, totally politically committed, and a totally propagandist attack on the morale of those who are fighting and dying to hold the ring while the people

Social security frauds

From Mr Martin Stevens, MP, for Fulham (Conservative)
Sir, Mr Frank Field (March 6) attacks the Minister for Social Security for not answering the charges made against him by your Social Services Correspondent. As far as I understand her article, the Minister for convincing evidence that social security abuse was either widespread or, even assuming that it was, that it was necessary to take the measures the Minister has announced, is to increase the number of social security inspectors by one thousand.

Three weeks ago, DHSS officials carried out an investigation with the police at an Unemployment Benefit Office in my constituency. They selected 137 people in a certain category and carried out checks. Of those selected, 42 were suspected of cheating and 18 were later convicted of obtaining money by deception.

In many cases, claimants were not living at given addresses. In other cases they were using more than one address and claiming benefits from a number of different social security offices. Following those checks, a further thirty applicants failed to sign on the following week.

I am not suggesting that this small sample is conclusive proof that social security abuse is widespread. Merely, that it gives some

Hey-day of blades

From Mr John Washington
Sir, Dr Tiffany (March 10) may not be aware of the current risks of carrying a pocket knife.

My undeclared—pocket knife was discovered by the metal detector at Rome Airport. I was recalled to the irate officer, my knife confiscated and sent to London in a shoe box in the hold.

I find the thought of a low-budget hijacking armed with a 60mm pen-knife quite refreshing. Yours faithfully, JOHN WASHINGTON, 2 High Street, Sevenoaks, Kent.

announcement of his policy and Cabinet.

There are many more who instead of recommitment will want now to wish Zimbabwe well and desire to see Church and nation working for unity rather than division. Yours faithfully, ALLAN SHAW, The Canon's House, Hereford, March 12.

From Mr Miles Hudson
Sir, The almost universal euphoria that has followed Mr Mugabe's moderation in the wake of his overwhelming victory is yet another example of the wishful thinking which has bedevilled the Rhodesian scene for decades. At no stage has Mr Mugabe repudiated his Marxist beliefs, nor have any of his senior lieutenants. Of course it is in his interest to be moderate at this stage. Any other policy would lead to immediate disaster. His present posture is totally predictable: indeed he himself predicted it during the election campaign.

The question at issue is whether his current moderation is a tactical ploy in the eventual achievement of a Marxist state or whether he genuinely believes in a mixed economy for Zimbabwe. Sadly, all the available evidence points to the former.

He may, indeed, change his mind when he sees the advantages of a measure of private enterprise or he may never be in the position of being able to move to a Marxist state without considerable economic and social disruption from which he may shrink. Those who think that Marxism does not work, and most certainly will not work in Africa, will hope that one of these two situations will develop.

But Mr Mugabe's present short-term attitudes have no relevance whatever to his long-term beliefs or those of his principal supporters. It is folly to imagine anything else—and we in Britain should be the last to underestimate the depth of the continuing commitment to Communism which intelligent men feel when they submit themselves to that all-embracing creed.

Yours faithfully, MILES HUDSON, The Priors Farm, Mattingley, Hampshire.

of Northern Ireland try to work out an acceptable future.

I must have given deep offence not only to minorities holding currently unfashionable views, but to much larger and more influential sections of opinion, notably to those who have served in the ranks of the Crown and their relatives and to the Army itself.

However, young men will still, no doubt, go for a soldier; the Army will still survive; and its authorities will probably be wise to continue to leave it to others to comment on the ways in which the makers of *Gone for a Soldier* have repaid them for the very full and generous co-operation which they were evidently given.

Yours faithfully, ROBIN HOOPER, Brook House, Egerton, Ashford, Kent.

From Miss K. M. Hewett
Sir, A soldier's daughter I should like to thank Field Marshal Lord Harding of Petherton for his letter to *The Times* (March 12). He has written that which many like myself fervently feel. I remember too well my own father's courage and cheerfulness after wounds inflicted by German and on the Somme and who lived to suffer 51 years after 1918.

I also recall with deep gratitude those who gave their lives for their country. Yours truly, K. M. HEWETT, 24 Marsh House, Helling, Rochester, Kent, March 12.

credence to the belief held, rightly or wrongly, by many people that this is in fact the case. If we are to spend £3m on one thousand additional inspectors, and they recover any substantial amounts by investigating abuses that, in my view, is money well spent.

This is so, not only because there is then more money in the kitty to spend on the genuine injustices and inconsistencies which appear to abound under the present system of welfare benefits—and Mr Field knows that I have supported him on a number of occasions in the Social Security Bill Standing Committee on such matters—but also because it is a good thing in itself: cutting out abuse will restore confidence and respect in our welfare system because it will be seen that claimants cheating it will be caught and punished and that receipt of benefit does not depend on your ingenuity, but on genuine need.

I support the idea that we should do more to encourage take-up. Further, I agree with Mr Field that abuse is not limited to the social security system. Other areas include tax evasion and indeed ticket frauds on public transport.

We should proceed vigorously against all such abuse. But simply in point to other areas where people cheat the system does not of itself deny the legitimacy of taking such action in the field of social security.

Yours, M. STEVENS, House of Commons.

Climbers' resting place

From Mrs Dulcibel Jenkins-McKenzie
Sir, I am grateful for Bernard Levin's article (March 6) on Mallory and Irvine.

My late husband John Jenkins and Nully Kretschmer have lain undisturbed within the depths of the Brenva face of Mont Blanc for some 30 years. The dismal thought that some enthusiast might interfere with their enviable resting place for whatever "scientific" reason dismays me.

Yours faithfully, DULCIBEL JENKINS-MCKENZIE, 89 Cornwall Gardens, SW7.

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

LAING
make ideas take shape

Stock markets
FT Ind 447.0, up 2.1
FT Gilt 64.10, up 0.02

Sterling
\$2.230, down 1.15 cents
Index 72.2, down 0.3

Dollar
Index 87.8, up 0.4

Gold
\$555.5, down \$32

Money
3 mth sterling 17 1/2
3 mth Euro \$ 18 1/2
6 mth Euro \$ 18 1/2

IN BRIEF

Rowland buys 600,000 ore shares

Lonrho

There was a flurry of activity on the London Stock Exchange yesterday as Lonrho's annual meeting of shareholders took place today and the company is expected to be challenged on at least two resolutions by the Kuwait-backed shareholders, the group's largest shareholders.

Roland "Tiny" Rowland, Lonrho's chief executive, was seen as a buyer through a company-owned company of 51p at the London Stock Exchange last night.

Other with the shares he owns and the votes he holds through the holdings of Mr Daniel K. Ludwig Rowland now accounts for 15 per cent of the company.

Financial Editor, page 21

oil search

Amoco and Mobil plan to spend several million pounds each searching for oil in the Irish Sea south-west of Ireland's south coast. The Dublin government has received a £1.5m payment from Esso for permission to up the region.

gy cuts inquiry

Organisations supporting conservation have urged the government to select an inquiry on energy to investigate the effects of government spending cuts on energy programmes. The groups, including consumer groups, the Environment and the Countryside, have urged the government to select an inquiry on energy to investigate the effects of government spending cuts on energy programmes. The groups, including consumer groups, the Environment and the Countryside, have urged the government to select an inquiry on energy to investigate the effects of government spending cuts on energy programmes.

year for travel

Travel to the United Kingdom rose 1 per cent in 1979, according to the latest figures from the Overseas Visitors Bureau. The increase was due to a 10 per cent rise in overseas visitors to the United Kingdom, which was offset by a 9 per cent fall in visits from overseas.

it trade visit

Delegation headed by Dr El-Sayeh, the Egyptian Minister of Economy, will visit London next week to discuss trade relations between the two countries. The visit is part of a series of trade missions aimed at strengthening economic ties between Egypt and the United Kingdom.

line schemes

View of product pipeline for the new oil pipeline from the North Sea to the UK. The pipeline is expected to be completed by 1982 and will provide a significant increase in oil supply to the UK.

casting study

Home Office is to investigate the possibility of a United Kingdom satellite broadcasting system which would offer up to 10 channels to viewers. The study is part of a wider investigation into the potential of satellite broadcasting in the UK.

PRICE CHANGES

Series	3p to 64p
Y Sch	15p to 38p
Y Wh	2p to 64p
Y A	5p to 37p
Y A	3p to 79p

THE POUND

	Bank	Bank
US \$	2.23	2.23
UK £	70.25	66.75
Sw Fr	2.64	2.64
DK Kr	13.02	12.47
Sc Kr	8.85	8.85
Fr F	9.72	9.72
Y Dr	4.21	3.99
Dr	90.75	86.25
Ang S	11.45	10.85
Fl	1940.00	1850.00
Yn	573.00	548.00
and Gld	4.62	4.59

Prime rates top 18pc on eve of anti-inflation measures

By Caroline Askinson and Frank Vogl

American interest rates spiralled higher yesterday ahead of President Carter's anti-inflation package to be unveiled in Washington this afternoon. Chase Manhattan announced a 1 point rise in its prime rate to 18 per cent. This is the first time that one of the large United States banks has pushed its prime rate to this level. Some other banks followed suit immediately.

The dollar jumped against all major currencies in foreign exchange markets, and the gold price fell by \$32 an ounce to its lowest closing level since the start of the year. Eurodollar rates were also sharply higher yesterday.

Financial markets were anticipating the announcement of a package to be announced today. A further rise in United States interest rates may be part of the package. The dollar was buoyed by dealers' expectations of yet higher rates on money held in the United States.

However, President Carter's successive delays in announcing his new package have led to growing fears in New York that it will fall far short of what is necessary to beat inflation.

The London Metal Exchange change the price of copper cash wire bars dropped 69.50 to £1,005.50 per tonne and three-month futures were 176.75 down at £1,019.75. Standard cash tin dropped by £370 per tonne and three months was £302.50 down.

Commodities, page 25

Go-ahead for Bonn plan to relax controls

From Peter Norman, Brussels, March 13

Foreigners will be able to invest in West Germany's fixed interest securities of two years' life and more from next Monday, following approval today by the Federal Bank's central council in Frankfurt of Bonn Finance Ministry plans to liberalize the country's capital import controls.

In a brief statement, the bank said a meeting of the council had agreed with Bonn that the minimum period to maturity of securities to be sold to non residents should be cut from four to two years.

From the beginning of next week, the Federal Bank will automatically approve applications from investors abroad who wish to purchase government paper of more than two years' life and a corresponding change will be made to the gentleman's agreement with the German banks that has restricted up to now the sale of other promissory note loans to foreigners.

The Federal Bank statement made only passing reference to the change in economic conditions that has induced Bonn to encourage inflows of foreign funds.

But the bank's latest weekly return that was also published today disclosed that there had been a DM3,000m drop to DM79,200m in Germany's net monetary reserves in the first week of March.

Germany's net monetary reserves have declined by some DM8,700m since the beginning of this year, largely as a result of Federal Bank efforts to support the mark through sales of dollars.

It is thought that the bank's total reserve losses this year could be even higher, at least in the order of DM15,000m, as the Federal Bank has been engaged in foreign exchange swap transactions with commercial banks to ensure that they are not starved of liquidity through the dollar sales.

The Federal Bank did not take any decisions on credit policy at its meeting today. It is felt in Frankfurt that official German interest rates are quite high enough since the increase two weeks ago in bank rate to 7 per cent and Lombard rate to 8.5 per cent.

US pledges \$300m aid this year for Turkey

Brussels, March 13

The United States has agreed to step up the level of its financial aid to Turkey this year by 50 per cent to \$300m, according to Mr Turgut Ozal, who, as undersecretary to the Turkish Prime Minister, is responsible for coordinating economic policy.

Mr Ozal, who has been in Brussels for talks with the European Commission and the Belgian Government, said he hoped the West German Government would grant more than this amount as its share of the western financial aid package being drawn up for his country under the auspices of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development.

The news that the United States has agreed to a substantial increase in its financial assistance removes one of the major uncertainties surrounding the planned OECD package.

Harry Hans Marthoff, the West German Finance Minister, who has been charged with mustering support for the aid programme, returned to Bonn last week from Washington without the hoped for assurance that the United States would go beyond last year's total of \$200m of financial aid for Turkey.

Although Mr Ozal refused to forecast the size of the planned aid programme, hopes are now strong that western nations will pledge between \$1,200m and \$1,400m worth of credit on concessional terms to Turkey at a conference due to be held in Paris on March 20.

Mr Ozal said he thought Turkey would be able to cover its expected \$4,000m current account balance of payments deficit this year.

Row brewing over state chiefs' pay as worries on differentials emerge

By Peter Hill, Industrial Editor

The Government faces an embarrassing row with State industry chiefs over salary levels of chairman and board members of public sector corporations are scheduled to have their salaries raised next month when the Government implements the third tranche of controversial increases agreed by the Labour government in 1978 following recommendations made by the Review Body on Top Salaries.

Over the past few months the Review Body, under the chairmanship of Lord Boyle of Handsworth, has carried out a further survey which is expected to be submitted to Mrs Thatcher by late spring.

State industry chiefs are concerned that the problems of compression of differentials and overlap between board members' salaries and those of corporation executives are now being deterred from holding gold by the very attractive interest rates available in dollars and other currencies.

Wallace Jackson writes: The downward trend in the gold price yesterday helped to send the prices of platinum, silver, copper and tin down sharply. The free market price of platinum at the afternoon fix was £344.15 (\$765) per troy ounce which was £58.55 (\$135) down on Wednesday.

At the silver bullion fixing the spot price dropped 113.95p per troy ounce to £1,212.55p and the three-month future was 113.60p down at £1,254.50p. These were the lowest levels since December, 1979.

On the London Metal Exchange the price of copper cash wire bars dropped 69.50 to £1,005.50 per tonne and three-month futures were 176.75 down at £1,019.75. Standard cash tin dropped by £370 per tonne and three months was £302.50 down.

Commodities, page 25

Pension fund managers 'mystified by suspension'

By Alison Mitchell

The mystery over the suspension of two senior investment managers at the £1,000m Electricity Council pension funds grew yesterday as both men denied that they knew of any reason for the move.

According to the Electricity Council, Mr Alan Urwin, investment manager of the pension funds and Mr William Lund, his deputy, are fully aware of what happened.

Suggestions that the two men were suspended orally for reasons which they do not understand were dismissed by the council. "In fact, they were suspended formally by a letter after a series of interviews. These interviews discussed the events which led to the suspensions," said Mr Urwin and Mr Lund are fully aware of the circumstances, the council said.

Mr Urwin denied last night that this was the case. "I don't know what has happened and there is no reason," he added. The council said that investigations were continuing and it could make no further comment.

It is understood that the suspensions followed an internal inquiry into a property deal. Both Mr Urwin and Mr Lund have also resigned from the board of Westminster Investments, a private property company, which was taken over by the Electricity Supply Corporation in 1978.

Mr Lund, who is a member of the National and Local Government Officers (Nalpo) has taken the matter to his union which is looking for the suspension of Mr Lund to be placed. However, they reflect the shift away from traditional areas of chemicals concentration such as the North-west and Midlands, where share of investment is also expected to fall by 8 per cent to 26 per cent.

The survey, carried out by the Chemical Industries Association, highlights a significant shift in the regional distribution of future investment in favour of Scotland, where the share of total investment will rise over the next three years from 10 to 26 per cent. In England it will fall from 84 to 68 per cent.

The proportion invested in development and special development areas will remain at around 70 per cent. The figures relate to the location of plants, not to where orders for equipment will be placed. However, they reflect the shift away from traditional areas of chemicals concentration such as the North-west and Midlands, where share of investment is also expected to fall by 8 per cent to 26 per cent.

Mr Bernard White, chairman of the association's economics committee, said that the shift was largely the result of Scotland's advantageous position relative to feedstocks from North Sea oil fields. In addition, some heavy areas of concentration in the United Kingdom, such as Teesside, had reached the limits of their expansion.

These were more important factors in determining the location of future investment than the bad industrial relations and productivity record of construction teams in areas like Teesside.

In the past, this has been blamed for the long delay and large cost escalation on several petrochemical projects. The C10/Brish Petroleum joint venture Olefins 6 cracker at Wilton, was more than two years late, and its cost doubled in construction to more than £200m.

Dr Ted Luxon, chairman of CIA's Scottish committee, said in Glasgow that about £70m would be spent in Scotland over the next three years. Chemicals was not a large direct employer of labour, but he said that increased investment would provide many new jobs in construction and support industries.

In the past, the chemicals industry has been one of Britain's success stories. It accounts for 90 per cent of the trade surplus in manufactured goods and is the biggest single investor in British industry.

Davignon talks fail to end threat of US legal action on steel dumping

From Michael Hornsby, Strasbourg, March 13

Viscount Davignon, the EEC Commissioner for industrial affairs, has returned from emergency talks in Washington on trade relations with America resigned to the new certainty that the United States Steel Corporation will file an anti-dumping suit against steel imports from the community.

While accepting that American steel companies would be perfectly within their rights to take legal action, Viscount Davignon expressed his essential officials that it was essential to avoid an avalanche of such suits, which could lead to a dangerous situation.

Commission officials estimate that if United States Steel's suit were successful, the company would have to prove not only that there had been dumping but that it had caused material injury—about 40 per cent of EEC steel exports to America could be hit. This would mean a loss of up to \$1,000m (£450m) for Europe's steel makers.

Viscount Davignon told American officials he could not accept that they should operate two types of protection—a trigger price mechanism to control cheap imports and then, if that failed, anti-dumping action. He said the EEC had agreed to America's trigger price system on condition that it removed the anti-dumping threat.

The American problem appears to be that the trigger prices, based on those prevailing in Japan, have dropped because of the recent depreciation of the yen and thus, arguably, no longer provide an effective barrier to cheap imports. This was, however, disputed by Viscount Davignon.

He said it was nonsense to claim the trigger prices had not protected the American steel industry. In 1978 the United States had imported seven million tons of EEC steel. Last year imports were down to 5.4 million tons. This was a considerable reduction, he said.

Viscount Davignon was unable to give the Americans any assurance that there would not be further EEC action to limit imports of American synthetic fibres. Import quotas have

Chemicals investment facing real fall of 30pc

By John Huxley

Capital spending by the chemicals industry in the United Kingdom will fall in real terms by about 30 per cent over the next three years, according to a survey of investment intentions published yesterday.

It suggests that by 1982 expenditure will have risen to £1,222m, against a total of £1,090m spent on new and replacement plant in 1979. Inflation will substantially reduce the buying-power of this increase.

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In the past, the chemicals industry has been one of Britain's success stories. It accounts for 90 per cent of the trade surplus in manufactured goods and is the biggest single investor in British industry.

Prospects for the industry are poor, with the large companies predicting no growth in output in the immediate future. Despite this, the CIA survey suggests that the industry is increasing capacity (55 per cent of planned investment represents new, as opposed to replacement plant, or energy conservation measures).

Planning nightmare, page 21

£33m rights issue by United Biscuits

By Ronald Pullen

United Biscuits yesterday became the first major company this year to call on its shareholders for money. The group is planning to raise £33m after expenses on the basis of one new share at 68p but phased their payment over three years.

In his report, the Review Body said that it did not believe that salaries in the state industries should equal the highest salaries in the private sector for jobs of similar weight, but that it was vital for them to be sufficiently attractive to recruit and retain the necessary ability.

Latest developments on salaries are expected to be discussed at the annual meeting of the National Industrial Relations Council. The meeting will see the election to chairmanship of the group of Sir William Barlow, Post Office chairman, who succeeds Sir Frank Pimms, chairman of the Electricity Council.

Over the past two years, United has spent £103m on investment and a further £1.5m on acquisitions in the United States and the fast foods business in this country, and it plans a £100m re-investment programme over the next five years. This has pushed up loans from £49.7m to £78.2m over the past year.

There has been a dearth of rights issues, apart from a few small ones in the oil sector, since last December's £60m issue from Pilkington Brothers, which met a poor reception from the stock market.

United also announced its 1979 profits which were better than the group had forecast at the half-way stage. Pretax profits rose from £42.2m to £43.7m on a 12 per cent sales increase to £791m.

After the first half downturn, caused mainly by the road haulage strike, profits were one-sixth higher in the second half. Despite the adverse effect of higher VAT on 40 per cent of its products, the group has reduced its heavy losses in Spain from £1.3m to only £100,000 although the drive into the United States after the Keebler and Specialty Brands acquisitions has pushed up currency losses to £1.7m.

Financial Editor, page 21

Bonn orders higher

The seasonally adjusted order inflow to the West German manufacturing industry rose 3.3 per cent in January from December, and climbed 12.7 per cent from January, 1979, according to preliminary figures released by the economics ministry.

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- March 25-26 10th INTERNATIONAL MARKET for Sporting and Camping Equipment
- March 27-28 11th EUROPEAN AUTOMATION - Exhibition-Conference: Numerical Control, Industrial Robots & Process Automation
- March 28-29 MODIT - Ready-made Clothes Exhibition
- March 30-31 12th INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF PACKING & WRAPPING, Internal Factory Conveyors, Transport & Food Industry Machinery
- March 30-31 13th COMSIP - International Fur Dealers' Salon
- April 1-2 14th IFED - International Film, TV, Film and Documentary Market
- May 3-6 15th 82 - International Exhibition of Optical, Optometric & Ophthalmic Goods
- May 5-6 SIMAP 80 - Italian Fashion Fair - International Exhibition of Sport & Showcasing Machines - Machinery for Tanning - Accessories and Synthetic Products - Model Design
- May 8-10 EXPO ITA - International Exhibition of Heat & Sound Insulation, Roofing Materials & Waterproofing
- May 12-13 16th 82 - International Exhibition of Semifinished Products & Accessories for the Manufacture of Furniture, Upholstery and Wood Articles
- May 15-21 17th INTERNATIONAL 80 - 7th International Biennial Exhibition of Timber & Woodworking Machinery & Accessories
- May 16-20 STAS 80 - International Trade Show of Carpets, Curtains, Furnishings, Fabrics, Textiles & Wallpapers, House linen
- June 4-8 18th 82 - Biennial International Exhibition-Conference: Automation & Instrumentation
- June 5-6 19th MIPEL - Italian Leather Goods Market (International Salon)
- June 10-13 ESMA-EUROTRACOT - European Hat and Footwear Salon
- June 15-21 20th 82 - Exhibition-Conference: Materials, Equipment & Products for Maintenance, Cleanliness & Hygiene in Industry & Community Life
- June 22-24 SAKAB 80 - Exhibition of Machines & Accessories for the Clothing Industry

Further information from: Fiera di Milano, Largo Demodossola 1, 20145 Milano (Italy) or from the Milan Fair Representative, Dr. Vittorio Schiavone, 20 Scivola, London W10 2D 01-756 2411.

The Milan Fair Organisation declines responsibility for any changes in the dates announced as above.

£50,000 for welfare funds and 'honorary' job for dismissed chairman

Wilkinson puts out its blazing boardroom row

Mr James Randolph, the dismissed chairman of Wilkinson Match, has agreed to end his long-running fight with the rest of his fellow directors.

As a result of an agreement revealed last night, Mr Randolph, 55, is to withdraw his legal action claiming wrongful dismissal and resign his directorship. Instead he is to become president of the group's subsidiary and to become its special consultant.

Under the arrangement, Wilkinson Match is to withdraw its moves to obtain an injunction restraining Mr Randolph from commenting on confidential group matters.

Also, the company has agreed to pay the legal costs and to pay, at Mr Randolph's request, £50,000 into welfare funds for the benefit of company employees.

Mr Randolph was ousted in a boardroom coup at Wilkinson last September after refusing to accept a £210,000 compensation payment to leave quietly.

His dismissal was the culmination of a bitter row with the rest of the board. This had been simmering almost since the time of the group's controversial American deal in 1978 which led to Wilkinson being 44 per cent owned by the United States Allegheny Ludlum group.

Although at the forefront of that deal, Mr Randolph later became disillusioned with what he saw as the style and direction the group was taking as a result of Allegheny's involvement.

After his sacking, he said he was staying on as a director to "protect my reputation" and "ing: 'I am afraid I would be blamed for what is to come'."

In December, Wilkinson shocked the City with news of a fall in its interim profits from £9.27m to £4.79m. It blamed its troubles on problems in the markets for razors and sunglasses as well as poor demand for matches and

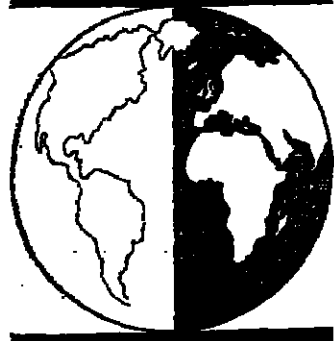
lighters because higher VAT and lower cigarette sales.

The rest of the board, however, have claimed that the row did not reflect differences over policy but was a clash of "personality and style".

Last night Mr Christopher Lewington, managing director of Wilkinson, said that Mr Randolph's post at Wilkinson would be "purely honorary" and that his salary as a consultant would be "modest by today's standards".

Mr Lewington added that Mr Randolph's consultancy duties would possibly include work "of a public relations nature".

Richard Allen



Alfa-Nissan deal a 'disaster'

A joint manufacturing deal being negotiated between the Italian state-owned Alfa Romeo and Nissan, of Japan, would be a disaster, says Umberto Agnelli, managing director of Fiat, said in Rome yesterday after appearing before a government commission examining the problems of the Italian car industry.

The agreement, which still has to be approved by the Italian government, is believed to involve production of about 60,000 units a year of a new model in the one-litre range, for which Alfa would provide the engine and transmission, and Nissan the bodywork.

Fiat has made Alfa a counter offer, but Agnelli said Alfa's reaction was "negative".

Swiss jobless down

The number of unemployed in Switzerland declined to 8,644 at the end of February from 11,371 at the end of January and 14,239 in February last year, equal to 0.3 per cent of the working population.

Soviet steel imports

Japanese steel makers will export a total of 100,000 tonnes of seamless pipes to the Soviet Union in the first half of fiscal 1980 beginning in April.

Joint nuclear pact

China Light and Power and Guangdong Electric have reached tentative agreement to discuss the feasibility of a joint nuclear power plant to supply both Guangdong province and Hongkong with electricity.

Tokyo tariff cuts

The Japanese government will start to discuss soon ways to reduce tariffs on car parts imported from the United States to demonstrate its readiness to ease the current trade frictions.

German retail sales up

West German January retail sales rose 8 per cent in real terms over January, 1979, on a nominal basis, turnover rose 14 per cent in January against 1979.

Glass's Guide director says used cars are giving far better margins

Dealers 'obsessed with new car sales'

Car dealers are devoting too much of their time and resources to the cut-price battle for new sales at the expense of higher profits in used cars, says Michael Lacey, director of Glass's Guide, said yesterday. The Guide is the salesman's monthly "bible" on used car prices and is not available to the public.

Under pressure from manufacturers, the dealers are discounting so aggressively that the profit margin on three new cars sold to business buyers is often only equal to one low mileage used car, he added.

There is no discount battle to worry about on used cars, and dealers would do well to remember this. Last year too many dealers turned away part exchange buyers who then disposed of their cars privately. We estimate that used cars retailed by the motor trade fell by 12 per cent last year when new car sales reached an all-time record, Mr Lacey said.

His comments follow an analysis of the trade's prospects which he wrote for the latest issue of Motor Trade Executive, the journal of the Motor Agents Association, where he reported that the used car market "went soft" from the middle of last year. By October many dealers were frantically trying to reduce used stock even if this meant selling to other dealers at "distress prices".

As a result all prices fell sharply. "Sellers had to learn the hard way that if they hoped to solve their own used car stock problems by passing their cars to other dealers, then a price had to be paid for the privilege", he said.

However pressure to reduce stocks has eased since December and prices have steadied. New sales are forecast to fall by at least 200,000 from last year's record 1.7 million units. But there are indications that the pressure of inflated new prices will increase the number of motorists trading up for a better used car instead of a new one.

With another 500,000 cars expected on the roads this year because of fewer scrappings, Mr Lacey urges dealers to cash in on this remaining growth sector.

Turning to the motor industry in general and BL in particular, he says 1979 may have marked the watershed in its fortunes with the political and economic climate combining to allow management to say "enough is enough". For the first time in many years management were facing up to the unions on the right to manage and in the rejection of unrealistic pay demands.

"The outcome is of immense importance to the whole nation. Do we at last mend our ways or continue down the

dreary Luddite path of overmanning, dispute ridden unproductive performance?" he asked.

Even if there is a real change of heart throughout the motor industry this year, with not a dispute in sight, he suggests we can expect little in the way of miracles. Total car production in Britain will only reach 1.05 million units or what Volkswagens, Renault, Peugeot and Fiat produce individually.

He is equally pessimistic about halting the rocketing sales of imports and in a swipe at Sir Michael Edwards' "Buy British" campaign, says: "It serves little purpose to berate the customer for his lack of patriotism."

"It would be nice to hope that the pendulum might begin to swing back towards British-built cars but all the indications suggest a further advance by foreign imports to at least 57.5 per cent this year. This compares with 56.3 per cent last year. Mr Lacey insists that this is a key year for BL. Only two years ago its minimum were car production in excess of 300,000 cars and last year it was down to 500,000. "If they can do no better in 1980, then pruning the labour force by 25,000 will resolve nothing in the long term", he said.

Clifford Webb

Sony commitment to expanding production in Wales

By Bill Johnstone

The production of 2,000-3,000 Preset television sets, and an increase in overall production at its Welsh factory, is the current commitment of the Sony Corporation, as described by the company's co-founder and chairman, Mr Akio Morita. Mr Morita, speaking in London yesterday, also predicted that the technology currently being used in the business environment would soon be introduced into the home.

That philosophy is reflected in Sony's immediate plans to concentrate a substantial part of its future energies in developing the business and institutional side of its markets. These at present contribute to one-third of its annual turnover.

Sony's presence in word processing and office machinery is becoming prominent around the world, and its share in the American office dictating equipment market has grown to nearly 15 per cent.

But the focus of Sony's attention yesterday was in the launch of its latest model of video-recorder which is designed around the Betamax system developed by the corporation itself.



Mr Akio Morita: business technology to be adapted for the home.

Sony system is one of the three companies competing for dominance in a market where the consumer is still suffering from what many dealers are beginning to call "technofear" — fear of commitment to purchasing anything in case the technology changes. The other two systems are the VHS and Philips.

Mr Morita conceded that the VHS system was a major competitor to the Sony one, but that the company had been conducting negotiations with another manufacturer with a view to standardization. He declined to name the manufacturer.

On Sony's development of the video disc, a large part of its marketing will be devoted to the institutional field where the number of copies of a particular film can be measured in thousands, so making the cost of using a disc cheaper compared to the cost of copying on to cassette.

Mr Morita was optimistic about the video market, despite the three systems. In Japan, he believes, the point is just about to be reached when the market will explode. That figure he quotes as 5 per cent saturation of all households. In the United Kingdom the comparable concentration at present is between 1 and 2 per cent, so it may take more than five years to develop to the 5 per cent ceiling.

Of the future, Mr Morita concedes, as many Japanese businessmen have before him, that the point may come when his country's chief export could be capital and technology.

Engineers' pay up by 20 per cent last year

By Kenneth Owen

Professional Editor

Professional mechanical engineers gained pay rises of more than 20 per cent during 1979, according to a survey conducted by the Institution of Mechanical Engineers in January and published by the institution yesterday.

Average salary of fellows and members (the main professional grades) of the institution in January was £9,800, and that of graduate and student members was £6,800. On an age basis, the biggest rises went to engineers in their early 30s, who gained increases of about 23 per cent.

The best paid type of work for mechanical engineers was the survey shows, is general management in private industry. Worst paid are those in development and design who are not managers. The former, for members and fellows of the institution, are paid at least £12,500; the latter were hard pressed to earn £7,500.

The best-paying sector for mechanical engineers was the power resources industry (coal, gas, oil and water), where fellows and members of the institution were paid an average of £11,110. The worst-paid sector for these grades of membership was that of universities and polytechnics, where the average was £8,040.

In general management, the range of salaries is from £10,000 to £16,000 in the private sector, with a £12,500 average (assessed independently of age). In the public sector, general management pays £9,500 to £14,250, with an average of £11,530, on the same basis. In each case the relevant membership grades are those of fellow and member.

In general, the average private-sector salary (age-adjusted) for members and fellows is £390 more than that in the public sector.

Analysed in terms of age groups, the highest average salary reported in the survey is £12,000 for engineers (members and fellows) aged 50 to 54 in the chemical and allied industry.

Industrial progress 'more rewarding'

A progressive improvement in industrial performance through the 1980s is a more feasible and more rewarding prospect than insistence on faster change at the cost of provoking a degree of industrial unrest which would subsequently lead to the slow decline seen in the 1970s, according to Sir Michael Clapham, chairman of B.M.I.

In his annual statement, he says the last Budget put the onus of improving performance in a more responsive environment squarely on the shoulders of industry's managers.

However, he must not be too impatient. National work practices and attitudes developed over many years will not be radically changed in 12 months, particularly in 12 months of low growth and high inflation.

In his statement, Sir Michael says that in general, and sometimes in difficult circumstances, industrial relations have been good "and employees have shown a realistic understanding of the company's need to deliver good quality products on time and at competitive costs."

"Much hard and constructive work goes into making and selling products having a total value of over £600m," he congratulates "those who have contributed... to the virtual doubling of our export realisations over the past four years."

The chairman reports that cash generated by operations during the year, at £49m, fell short of requirements by "only £4m" which was covered by short-term borrowings.

Investment in fixed assets was £25m and working capital rose by £7m.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Misunderstanding over relative benefits of thermal reactors

From Mr R. A. Flint

Sir, The letter to the Editor by Professor G. R. Bainbridge and others published on March 4 under the heading "Why AGR nuclear power system is safer and less costly" contains a number of inaccurate and misleading statements which, generally, can only add to the confusion of your readers interested in this topic.

A comprehensive and detailed assessment of thermal reactors, including AGR and PWR, has been carried out by the National Nuclear Corporation and a report of this work "The Choice of Thermal Reactor Systems" was published in 1977. An examination of this document by Professor Bainbridge would perhaps have avoided some of the misunderstandings evident in his letter. But in the absence of this, the following observations may be helpful to Professor Bainbridge and his colleagues at the Energy Centre.

The reference to reactor operators having only two

minutes to make correct decisions following any loss of coolant accident in a PWR is incorrect. It is an essential design requirement that for any type of reactor built in the United States, operator action is not required for at least 10 minutes following an initiating fault. In the United Kingdom and Germany the prescribed time without operator intervention is 30 minutes.

Any action necessary within these limits of time are dealt with by automatic controls. If one considers a wider safety perspective it is important to appreciate that the design of any PWR power station built in the United Kingdom will have to conform to the same stringent safety criteria as apply to the latest AGRs.

In the case of temperature excursions in PWRs, any temperature increase, even if it causes the power of the reactor to be reduced, is a strong effect that for most postulated PWR faults the

reactor would shut itself even if the neutron-rod control rods failed to do so. This means that the effect is exactly opposite to that claimed by Professor Bainbridge. The statement concerning the thermal efficiency of the PWR and AGR implies this is directly reflected in increased uranium costs for the PWR. This is a

misunderstanding. Differences in operating conditions and characteristics greatly reduce this. With full fuel reprocessing uranium requirements for PWRs, over its lifetime is 10 per cent higher than for an AGR. On the other hand, with no reprocessing of uranium requirements for the PWR are less than for the AGR. This is a

Poor quality of record production

From Mr Peter R. Hodg

Sir, With regard to your "Music industry's 'Pops' rhythm" (March 10), it is a pity that the music industry has not changed in the music. The descending level of for major record companies could not doubt be the cause of the poor quality of record production. The record industry has created a quality fault. Most LPs show nearly all "Pops" single incoherent faults which, from the consumer's point of view, are a nuisance. The "Pops" ticks which every record now to house is a sure sign of a declining product. If the quality of the production of record improved so would the vinyl—indeed, it would prove the vinyl to be a

Incidentally, I have purchased a record which is "A digital" but it is not a digital recording—but that too still all the faults of the batch of long-playing all yours faithfully, PETER R. HODGES, 3 Chaire Court, 9 Union Gardens, Eastbourne, East Sussex, BN21 2AA, March 11.

Depression's lessons

From Mr John Mills

Sir, Mr Holloway of the Economic Research Council bases his support (March 6) for Mrs Thatcher's policies on an incorrect appreciation of what happened in the 1930s and since 1945.

The financial collapse of 1929-32 was centred on the United States and Professor (now Lord) Robbins has shown in "The Great Depression" written in 1934 that this was not caused by a "deliberate curtailment of the supply of money". The supply of money in the United States of America increased as fast as output between 1926 and 1929. Prices were stable. Wages increased by only 2 per cent.

There was deflation in the United Kingdom because sterling was overvalued. Money was dear because the deficit in the balance of payments had to be financed by attracting short-term funds to London.

Rising output brought rising profits in the United States and between 1926 and 1929 the velocity of circulation of money increased by no less than 40 per cent. Professor Robbins attributed the collapse to the decision by the Federal Reserve to raise other central banks to relieve the pressure on the Bank of England by lowering interest rates in 1927-28 instead of raising them to check the boom before it got out of hand.

There was no shortage of money in the United Kingdom after the collapse. The nominal value increased and the real

value increased even faster as prices fell. The rate on three month's Bills fell from 5.30 per cent in 1929 to 0.57 per cent in 1935.

Mr Holloway is equally mistaken in his reference to the money supply increasing a little faster than output after the war, but between 1949 and 1961 the two were level pegging even though prices rose by nearly 60 per cent, contrary to all monetarist theory.

The very high rate of inflation in recent years has not been accompanied by an increase in the money supply. The relationship has not been stable and so far no evidence has been produced to show that the direction of causality flows in only one direction. Money is a commodity and it would indeed be odd if its price was affected only by the supply. We need to look at the demand and how much of the demand is productive.

The lessons of the inter-war period suggest that our decline will continue until our monetary and exchange rate policies are reversed, as they were in 1931 as a result of a U-turn by an essentially Conservative government.

Yours faithfully, JOHN MILLS, Secretary, Campaign for a Competitive Exchange Rate, 72 Albert Street, London NW1 7NR, March 11.

Muddled thinking on capital tax

From Mr T. M. Holmes

Sir, Dr Bracewell-Milnes criticises (March 4) Adrienne Gleeson's article on capital taxation but seems to me guilty of some muddled thinking on capital gains tax. He asserts that tapering is logical because, in his opinion, "the longer an asset is held, the less its resemblance to income". An asset would not ordinarily, if ever, resemble income but I take him to mean that the economic increment accruing on the disposal of an asset loses its character as income the longer it takes to mature. I fail to see the logic of that.

I suggest the more logical proposition is that all gains are a form of income. It has been argued, however, that a gain accruing over a long period should be taxed more lightly to compensate for the bunching effect of bringing it all into one year. I think that was one of the reasons for having a relatively low fixed rate of 30 per cent (the standard rate of income tax was 41.25 per cent in 1965-66).

The real problem remains the effect of inflation on the computation of such income/gains. Only indexation can properly counter that, tapering is an illogical and wholly unsatisfactory solution. But simplicity ought to be the keynote of any solution and I would therefore advocate further progress along the road started on in 1978—increased exemption thresholds—and supported by Mr Bevis in his letter of March 4. A cut in the rate also seems justified.

Yours faithfully, T. M. HOLMES, Rutland House, The Gowers, Sutton on the Forest, York, YO6 1DL, March 6.

BL plea for patriotism calls the wrong tune

From Mr John Martin

Sir, British Leyland is currently exhorting the public to buy all things British, especially motor cars. Its truck subsidiary trades under the name of Leyland with no mention of British and its current television advertising is to music from Wagner's Lohengrin. Does this not seem rather incongruous? Would not music by a British composer be a more appropriate background? The obvious choice would seem to be Elgar, unless it is thought his music is unacceptable on political grounds.

Yours faithfully, J. MARTIN, 57 Tycehurst Hill, Loughton, Essex, March 10.

United Biscuits

FROM THE STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN, SIR HECTOR LAING

1979 was a very challenging year. Profits before tax at £43.7 million were £1.5 million higher than those for 1978. Significant factors affecting these results were:

United Kingdom
The road haulage dispute which adversely affected all areas of the business.

The increased rate of Value Added Tax which resulted in a temporary fall in volume of the affected products which account for about 40% of our UK turnover.

The continued high level of marketing investment necessary to develop our frozen food and fast food businesses.

United States of America
Keebler's profit, after an excellent first half, flattened out in the second half, compared with the same period in the previous year when margins were exceptionally high. In addition, the second half of 1979 bore the cost of very heavy investment in new product launches.

Specialty Brands, which joined the Group in June 1979, exceeded the pre-tax profit forecast for the year of \$6.1 million by \$0.3 million.

Interest
Heavy capital investment in the UK and USA, the acquisition of Specialty Brands and high interest rates raised our net interest costs from £3.8 million to £6.3 million.

Corporate Objectives
Although we have failed to meet our corporate objectives in respect of profit margin on sales and return on capital employed, this was almost entirely due to our profit decline in the first half of the year. In the second half we achieved a pre-tax profit increase of £3.9 million or 16.7% over the corresponding period in 1978.

'Real World'
In the circumstances our profit performance in 1979 can be regarded as reasonable. However, the above figures are measured in historical accounting terms. In the present inflationary conditions I believe it is more realistic to

present our results on a current cost basis in the belief that they provide a more realistic reflection of a company's performance. For too long industry has deluded itself with the misleading impression of profitability given by historical accounting which, in a time of high inflation, bears little relation to reality. Accordingly we have given more prominence to presenting our results on a current cost basis. These show that profit before taxation for 1979 would be £34.1 million (1978 £34.7m) and that dividends would be covered 2.7 times (1978 3.3 times).

Outlook
I welcome the freedom from regulation given to industry by the Government in the UK, and wholeheartedly support their determination to conquer inflation. However, the measures required to cure the disease mean that there will be little or no growth in the UK economy in 1980, or in the United States, where similar problems exist. Nevertheless, as I have said before, people must eat, and we have a broad range of products in both

countries which will stand us in good stead in a time of recession.

Rights Issue
The Board proposes that the Company should raise approximately £33.8 million by the issue of 51,339,203 new Ordinary shares of 25p each by way of Rights on a one for five basis at 68p per share, payable in full on acceptance not later than 9th April, 1980.

Hector Laing.

Sir Hector Laing, Chairman
13th March, 1980

Dividends
The Directors recommend the payment of a final dividend of 2.0p per Ordinary Share of 25p, making a total distribution for 1979 of 3.7p per share (1978 3.006p per share). Subject to approval by the Company at the Annual General Meeting the proposed final dividend will be payable on 1st July, 1980, to holders of Ordinary shares registered at the close of business on 4th June, 1980.

PRELIMINARY CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR 1979

	CURRENT COST		HISTORICAL COST	
	1979	1978	1979	1978
Turnover	£m	£m	£m	£m
	791.0	703.8	791.0	703.8
Trading Profit	37.4	36.5	50.0	46.0
Interest	8.3	3.8	6.3	3.8
Gearing Adjustment	3.0	2.0	—	—
	3.3	1.8	—	—
Profit before Taxation	34.1	34.7	43.7	42.2
Taxation	7.8	7.4	7.8	7.4
Profit after Taxation	26.3	27.3	35.9	34.8
Extraordinary items and minority interests	1.1	2.2	1.1	2.2
Profit attributable to shareholders	25.2	25.1	34.8	32.6
Dividends	9.5	7.7	9.5	7.7
Undistributed profit	15.7	17.4	25.3	24.9
Earnings per share	10.2p	10.9p	14.0p	13.8p

Note: The current cost trading profit and gearing adjustment are determined in accordance with the proposals contained in ED24. Current cost and historical cost trading profits may be reconciled as follows:

	1979	1978
	£m	£m
Historical cost trading profit	50.0	46.0
Current cost adjustments:		
Additional depreciation	8.7	7.1
Additional cost of sales	4.5	2.7
Monetary working capital	(0.6)	(0.3)
	12.6	9.5
Current cost trading profit	37.4	36.5

* Includes the adjustment in respect of seasonal stock purchases.

The Annual Report will be posted to shareholders on Tuesday, 15th April. If you are not a shareholder but wish to obtain a copy, please complete and return the coupon to: The Registrars, The Royal Bank of Scotland Limited, 31 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 2AB.

Name _____
Address _____

United Biscuits
United Biscuits (Holdings) Limited, Syon Lane, Isleworth, Middlesex TW7 5NN.

TRANSPORT DEVELOPMENT GROUP IN 1979

	1979	1978	% Change
Profit before tax	£m 22.3	£m 19.8	+12.6%
Earnings per share	8.71p	7.45p	+16.9%
Dividend per share	4.25p	3.60p	+18.1%
Ordinary shareholders' funds	£m 110.8	£m 102.0	+8.6%
Net tangible assets per share	83.4p	76.8p	+8.6%

* Profit much above what could have been predicted at outset of year. Balance sheet one of great strength.

* Most haulage companies improved on previous year result despite 1979 driver's strike.

* Warehousing companies had a good year after a difficult start. Profits of cold stores in line with previous year.

* Plant hire companies produced record trading profits.

* Export packing and industrial removal services had a buoyant year.

* Lighterage business of Thames & General Lighterage Limited sold.

* Profits of Dutch transport companies substantially increased but strength of sterling reduced impact on Group results.

* Increase in profits of Australian companies also eroded by strength of sterling and weakness of Australian dollar.

* Signs of some decline from intense activity of 1979 but results to date establish sound base for what may be a difficult year for industry.

Full report and accounts available after 2 April 1980 from the Secretary, Transport Development Group Limited, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SR.

HAULAGE · STORAGE · REINFORCEMENT · EXHIBITION

Battle lines at Lonrho

Despite a better than expected second half which pushed up full year profits after the opening setback from £42.2m to £43.7m, profits growth next year looks unlikely to be more than a tenth leaving little room for any earnings growth after the share issue.

John Huxley

The 'loss leader' battle goes to the courts

retailers have had with manufacturers unhappy to see their recommended prices heavily cut.

Tesco has complained to the Office of Fair Trading about difficulties in obtaining supplies of television and audio equipment.

Robin Young

Competitors line up for the switch to PABX

abbreviated telephone codes and used) and facilities to automatically divert calls when

and reliability. So far systems from IBM, Plessey and PDP have been given approval.

to individual offices via a mic
processor controlled PABX.

Business Diary: Enter three Teddy boys • Radiation slickness?

Above the cnoing one can just about hear the steady tramp, tramp of VIP feet to the UKAEA's fast reactor prototype at Dounreay.

Mrs. Thatcher, whom the French now call the "uranium lady" has been to Dounreay but to see the French Superphénix commercial fast reactor. Others who have been on the UKAEA's charter plane service north are the Energy Secretary, David Howell, Scottish National Party Euro MP Winnie Ewing, and least but not least, today's visitor,

tion in June, will have more to do there than bend the ear of his present master, Trade Secretary John Nott.

Some BIBA members are slow to register under the act, therefore putting their membership at risk. Second, BIBA is drafting its own system of professional qualifications. Already, I hear, one or two members are jumping the gun and styling themselves "fellows" of BIBA and such. Morris will have to stamp out this smartly.

pire of Michael Heseltine, Environment Secretary, quarry hunter and assiduous quacker? MPs put the question recently. Back has come the answer: on February 1 there were 48,862.5 staff on the payroll. Such precision, he prompted disaffected observers in the building industry to argue that the offending department person bereMOVED, if only the ground of being has hearted about his or her job.

Ross Davis

A high-contrast, black and white photograph of a textured surface, possibly a wall or a piece of fabric. The image is heavily grainy and noisy. A dark, irregular shape is visible in the lower right corner, which could be a shadow or a hole. The overall appearance is that of a low-quality, high-contrast scan of a physical document.

CHANGING TEMPERATURES
Milan

There are 6,400,000
inhabitants in Milan
with a population density
of 1,300 inhabitants per
square kilometer.
The climate is temperate
with an average annual
precipitation of 1,200
mm. The temperature
range is from -10°C
to 30°C. The average
annual temperature is
12°C. The average
annual precipitation is
1,200 mm. The average
annual snowfall is 10
cm. The average annual
ice cover is 10 days.

Italy
 deposits of 0000 June 1979
 deposits and funds administered
 employees
 Uto Regione Lombardia and
 lombardo-deposits and funds
 June 8 - 2012 Milano - Italy
 325 - 3-1050/Brasile
 3 - 6 Flakfurt and Milan
 use - 34 London and London SB
 Milano - N 201017

Anglo American Investment Trust Limited

(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

Preliminary Profit Announcement and Notice of Final Dividend on the Ordinary Shares

The following are the estimated results of the company for the year ending March 31 1980, and the actual results for the year ended March 31 1979.

	Year ended March 31 1980	Year ended March 31 1979
Investment income	91 863	80 098
Interest earned	354	633
	92 217	80 731
Deduct:		
Administration and other expenses	1 115	875
Provision for taxation	130	251
	1 245	1 126
Net profit after taxation	90 972	79 605
Preference dividend	300	303
Equity earnings	90 672	79 302
Extraordinary item—Surplus on realisation of investments	13 945	—
	104 617	79 302
Deduct:		
Interim dividend No. 79 of 230 cents a share	23 000	23 000
Final dividend No. 80 of 630 cents a share	63 000	52 000
	86 000	75 000
Transfer to general reserve	18 000	4 000
	104 000	79 000
Unappropriated profit from previous year	617	305
	3 533	3 228
Unappropriated profit, March 31 1980	4 150	3 533
Number of ordinary shares in issue	10 000 000	10 000 000
Earnings per ordinary share (before extraordinary item)—cents	907	793
Dividends per ordinary share—cents	860	750
Notes:		
1. Particulars of the company's listed investments are as follows:		
	1979	1978
Market value	123.80	31.379
Book value	990 792	805 112
Appreciation	69 656	46 411
	921 126	758 701

* The last practical date before publication of these results.

2. Changes in investments: The company has sold its investment of 590 625 shares in Anglo American Industrial Corporation Limited and purchased 2 274 100 deferred shares in De Beers Consolidated Mines Limited, increasing its holding in that company to 97 136 400 deferred shares.

3. Diamond sales: The company has substantial interests both in De Beers Consolidated Mines Limited and in the diamond trading companies. Sales by the Central Selling Organisation for the year ended December 31 1979 amounted to R2 192 million (R2 219 million), equivalent to US dollars 2 588 million (dollars 2 552 million).

4. Diamond price increase: The price of rough gem diamonds weighing more than one carat marketed by the Central Selling Organisation was increased with effect from February 18 1980. The increase varied according to quality and size. The effect will be an overall increase in the price of diamonds sold by the Central Selling Organisation of approximately 12 per cent.

Final dividend
Dividend No. 80 of 630 cents per ordinary shares (1979: 520 cents), being the final dividend for the year ending March 31 1980, has been declared payable to shareholders registered in the books of the company at the close of business on March 28 1980. This dividend, together with the interim dividend of 230 cents a share declared on August 28 1979, makes a total of 860 cents a share for the year ending March 31 1980 (1979: 750 cents).

The ordinary share transfer registers and registers of members will be closed from March 29 to April 11 1980, both days inclusive, and warrants will be posted from the Johannesburg and United Kingdom offices of the transfer secretaries on or about April 24 1980. Registered shareholders paid from the United Kingdom will receive the United Kingdom currency equivalent on April 15 1980 of the value of their dividends (less appropriate taxes). Any such shareholders may, however, elect to be paid in South African currency provided that any such request is received at the offices of the company's transfer secretaries on or before March 28 1980.

The effective rate of non-resident shareholders' tax is 14.9375 per cent. The dividend is payable subject to conditions which can be inspected at the head and London offices of the company and also at the offices of the company's transfer secretaries, Consolidated Share Registrars Limited, 62 Marshall Street, Johannesburg 2001 and Charter Consolidated Limited, Charter House, Park Street, Ashford, Kent TN24 8EQ.

General
It is anticipated that the forty-fourth annual report of the company in respect of the year ending March 31 1980 will be despatched to members on or about May 13 1980.

Johannesburg
March 14 1980.

TEACH YOURSELF EUROPEAN

Learn about European affairs by reading *Europa*, published on the first Tuesday of each month with *The Times*

EUROPA The first truly European newspaper

Learn to love a Quango*...



Quangos aren't the most loveable of beasts, we know.

But here at Washington, this Quango is building one of Britain's best New Towns — quickly, quietly and efficiently.

We can offer the industrialist a complete package — and from initial enquiry to "after sales service" we keep things as straightforward as possible.

You'll find us amenable, approachable and efficient. We won't smother you in red tape. If you can bring jobs to Washington, we want to talk to you.

So learn to love a quango. Remember, we don't bite — and it is quicker by Quango.

Contact: W. S. Holley, General Manager, WASHINGTON DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, Usworth Hall, Washington, Tyne & Wear. Tel: Washington (0632) 463591. Telex: 537210 DC WASH G or ring our London Office: The North East New Towns, Tel: 01-488-2400.

*Quango: Quasi autonomous non governmental organisation.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Oil sector leads recovery by equities

After a hesitant start, dealers managed to apply the brake to the latest slide in the market with the help of an eventful session among oils.

However, despite the firmer tone, trading remains pitifully thin with only certain sectors and special situations being able to hold investors' interest.

Gifts continued to mark time and, as yet, there is no sign of the run-up to the Budget being predicted by a one or two After Wednesday's tumble in share values, jobbers were again in a cautious mood yesterday which was not helped by United Biscuits' cash-call to shareholders for £24m. This wiped 7s from the shares at 80p and 3p from Associated Biscuits at 82p.

But it was the "brilliant" figures from Ultramar accompanied by 100 per cent scrip which finally helped to swing the market the other way. Buyers soon stepped into the arena with BP becoming a target just ahead of the figures. Jobbers reported some fairly heavy trade, mainly from the institutions which helped to dry-up the large selling orders from the United States which had been evident all week.

In the meantime, trading elsewhere remained thin, although the tone was definitely firmer.

Gifts had another quiet trading session, with the pattern much the same as the rest of the week. Prices held fairly steady, but if they showed any sign of weakness the buyers moved in although not in any great scale. This is how most dealers expect it to remain at least until after the Budget.

As a result, long scrip lifted after a confident start, but recovered at the close to finish unchanged in most cases. Shorts witnessed a few buyers which enabled them to finish at the top with rises of around £3/16.

Leading industrials took their cue from the return to favour among the oils with ICI recovering 8p to 370p after its bearish annual report. But Turner and Newall's disappointing full-year figures on Wed-

nesday cost it another 2p to 108p.

Elsewhere, the rises were more modest. Unilever rose 5p to 440p, Glaxo 4p to 250p, Courtauld 2p to 70p and Beecham 1p to 122p. But it was enough to show some sort of recovery in the F.T. Index, which after opening 3.3 down, went on to close with a net gain on the day of 2.1 at 447.0.

Furniture retailers Courts (Furnishers) seem to have lagged behind the sector recently. The shares at 90p stand at a big discount to the 188p net asset value and if the bill to enforce enforcement of all shares gets through Parliament, Courts with its non voters could roar ahead.

Nevertheless, it was the continued recovery of confidence in oils which enabled the run-around. The majors came in for a further round of buying enticed by the full-year figures from BP which, at £1.6bn, were bang on target. This pushed the share price up 16p on overnight levels, after starting the day 4p lower at 348p.

Ultramar's doubled profits achievement and 1-for-1 scrip was another leading light which was just the tonic sought by most investors. The shares became eagerly sought and finished up the most actively traded stock as the price jumped 10p to 456p. But in victory's enthusiasm, was not confined to just these two. Shell closed 4p up at 380p accompanied by Burmah 4p to 215p, Tricentral 4p to 292p and Lams 10p to 488p.

The second-liners had a quieter session of late but market men were still pleased with the outcome. Viking remained steady at 1015p, following the counter bid from Sun (the United States earlier in the week, as did Slebeas which closed at 620p.

Aran Energy continued to lose ground reflecting its cash-call to shareholders, being 8p to 358p.

In shipping, hopes of a further bid from C. Y. Tang of 400p lifted Furness Withy 5p to 376p, but news that bid talks at Howard Tenens had broken down clipped 7p from the shares returning from suspension at 75p.

Also on the bid front, shares of Status Discount were suspended at 69p as MFI tumbled 4p to 85p and W. H. Smith fell 3p to 148p. Both are rumoured to be "in" candidates.

W. E. Turner also returned from suspension 33p higher at 82p following an agreed bid from J. Heyworth, 1p easier at 68p.

Maple, recovered an initial

fall of 3p, to close unchanged at 27p after reports that it was still in talks with its mystery bidder. Vague, speculative rumours on a cross-Channel rail link is about to be made succeeded in boosting Channel Tunnel 70p to 230p, as speculative interest also helped Y. I. Lovell 6p to 116p and Royal Worcester 10p to 210p.

News that the offer from Rasro Investments of 3p indicated that Gulf Stream sources' 10 per cent of the North West Domes may well value the company at £10 a share. Latest ask show that the field is now 53.5m cu ft of gas a day, a tent to the world's largest gas field: Groningen. The share 10p to 290p yesterday.

Electricals had a quiet appearance, but still a sadly neglected with very trading. Rascal took a further away from its 200p brink, rising 1p to 209p as improved 3p to 374p. M&P encountered profit-taking 4p to 136p as did M&P's own at 140p after the man's bullish annual statement earlier in the week.

Gestetner 14p were a main rising 3p to 79p. Mining shares were nervous on the latest of the bullion price, down \$355.5 an ounce, which increased tension with some afraid their shares profits might soon be all this led for an extremely sensitive session as price throughout the list.

Mining financials came further pressure with the decline in precious metals. Cons Gold falling 20p to RTZ 13p to 373p and De D'rd \$5/16 lower at \$8 1/2 burg dropped another 250p.

Equity turnover on the was 10,931,000 shares, mainly active stocks according to the Telegraph, were Ultramar, Shell, B&A's, Burmah, Rascal, GEC and Turner.

Newall.

Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
Int or Fin	£m	£m	per share	pence	date	total
BP (F)	22,705 (17,360)	1,621.0 (444.0)	104.8 (26.7)	12.0 (4.4)	22/5	17.5 (6.33)
Shell (F)	12,734 (10,130)	1,017.7 (725.7)	29.2 (21.5)	2.9 (2.1)	3/5	1.4 (1.6)
T. (F)	12.8 (12.3)	0.6 (0.35)	3.4 (2.3)	0.8 (0.5)	3/5	1.4 (1.6)
East Lanc Paper (F)	34.4 (28.6)	1.6 (1.4)	21.1 (16.3)	3.1 (2.1)	1/5	4.7 (3.6)
Flintham Finance (F)	—	0.7 (0.47)	11.4 (7.4)	5.5 (3.0)	—	—
Harris & Sheldon (F)	45.3 (41.1)	4.5 (4.0)	7.5 (6.6)	1.7 (1.4)	23/5	3.0 (2.2)
HTV (F)	17.3 (13.6)	1.2 (1.2)	4.9 (11.3)	3.5 (3.5)	—	—
G & E Metals (F)	—	0.2 (0.13)	—	—	—	—
Nelson David (F)	4.9 (4.2)	0.08 (0.04)	0.7 (0.4)	—	—	—
De-Swift Inds (F)	12.4 (10.8)	1.36 (1.08)	—	—	4/4	—
Newey Group (F)	15.2 (13.4)	0.2 (0.29)	6.2 (7.8)	—	—	—
Refuge Assurance (F)	—	—	—	7.2 (6.2)	9/5	10.6 (9.2)
Schroders (F)	—	6.6 (4.9)	—	14.0 (—)	25/4	17.43 (12.9)
Sale Tilney (F)	66.2 (64.4)	2.5 (1.1)	38.7 (23.6)	3.6 (2.8)	4/6	6.7 (5.6)
Stewart & Weight (F)	—	0.03 (0.001)	—	—	—	—
Transport Dev (F)	248.0 (219.0)	22.3 (19.8)	10.4 (10.3)	2.8 (2.5)	16/5	4.25 (3.6)
Ultramar (F)	1,002.0 (595.0)	75.4 (37.7)	99.3 (15.3)	10.0 (—)	9/5	15.0 (—)
Turner & Newall (F)	791.0 (704.0)	43.7 (42.2)	14.0 (13.8)	2.0 (1.5)	1/7	3.7 (3.0)

Dividends in table are net of tax on profit per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. * = Loss.

Schroders raises dividend

By Roman Eisenstein
Banking Correspondent

Schroders, the merchant banking group, yesterday disclosed profits of £6.6m after tax and transfer to inner reserves of its banking subsidiary. This compares with £4.94m in 1978.

The dividend has been lifted by 35 per cent to 17.4p a share and the board proposes a one-for-one scrip issue by the capitalization of £7.85m from the group's reserves. The relevant resolutions will be put to an extraordinary general meeting of shareholders. The new shares will not rank for last year's final dividend.

Profits from banking have increased from £3.85m to £4.6m with most of the increase coming from the banking subsidiary in the United States. Although profits from banking operations in Britain and Switzerland showed some increase, they were held back by higher costs and tighter margins.

Non-banking profits almost doubled from £971,000 to £1.89m.

Options

The traded options market saw a little more activity yesterday, with the total number of contracts rising from 540 to 69.

There was interest in BP, with 208 contracts on its results, while ICI saw 72 contracts. Consolidated Gold Fields and RTZ continued on the downward path, following the fall in metals prices, producing 37 and 37 contracts respectively.

Cadbury Schweppes Limited

A YEAR OF SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT BY SIR ADRIAN CADBURY, CHAIRMAN

	1979 £m	1978 £m
Group sales	1,006.0	1,012.7
Trading profit	70.7	62.0
Group profit before tax	57.3	48.2
Taxation	17.8	18.5
Dividends	14.3	12.6
Profit retained	23.2	3.6

- * We have achieved the objectives set last year.
- * Material improvement in pre-tax profits — up 18.9%.
- * Margins improved and return on operating assets raised.
- * North America became largest overseas operation.
- * Main UK improvement from drinks; good increases from all other divisions.
- * Canadian production and sales picking up and 1979 loss should be eliminated this year.
- * Investment increased in marketing and research & development.
- * Much better placed to meet economic problems of 1980 following programme of concentration and rationalization.

Cadbury Schweppes Limited, 1-10 Connaught Place, London W2 2EX

FINANCIAL NEWS

Support promised for investigation

boards of Blue Circle Industries and Armitage Shanks yesterday that they will give "full and complete" cooperation to a Monopolies Commission investigation of the proposed merger of the companies, the hope of resolving the dispute as soon as practicable.

Both boards believe that the proposed merger continues to be the best interests of the companies and are anxious to resolve the uncertainty of the situation.

At the Blue Circle (formerly Associated Portland Cement) chairman's victory in its long struggle to take over the company, which was the last of its kind in the world.

At the Armitage Shanks chairman's victory in its long struggle to take over the company, which was the last of its kind in the world.

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Sutton Water offer over twice covered

Sutton District Water's offer for sale by tender of £3m 10 per cent redeemable preference stock, 1983, attracted applications for £7.24m of stock. The lowest price to receive a partial allotment was £38.81. The average price obtained was £38.98.

Dealings will start today.

Assam Trading plans to go into property

Assam Trading (Holdings) Limited ("ATH") has agreed conditionally to acquire a 30 per cent stake in Assam Property Investment and Property Properties. Following the run-down of ATH's Indian interests, ATH's main interest at present is a 38.27 per cent shareholding in McLeod Russell and Co. The directors have been considering ways in which to develop ATH which would both benefit the members of the company and also balance the company's dependence on the holding in McLeod Russell. It was felt that ATH's best prospect lay in property and property development in which certain directors have knowledge and experience.

The total value of the consideration to be paid by ATH is £2.34m, of which £1.88m is attributable to Learmonth and £457,500 to Country. The consideration for the purchase of the ordinary share capital of both companies will be satisfied by the issue of 3,696,700 new "B" shares of 10p each of ATH. The consideration for the purchase of 100,000 convertible participating preference shares of Country will be £130,000 in cash.

LMS's \$12m property sale in Canada

London Merchant Securities has completed the sale, for Cdn\$12.4m (£4.75m) in cash, of a property in Toronto, Canada, which has been held as an investment for 19 years. The price produces an appreciable surplus over book cost and reinvestment of the proceeds will serve to enhance significantly group income.

Refuge Assurance pays more

Last year, net profits, after tax, of Refuge Assurance rose from £2.08m to £2.47m. The total gross dividend is being

Best-ever first half for Nelson David

Reporting a 75 per cent improvement in pretax profit to a record £84,000 in the first half to September 30, 1979, Mr David Cooper, chairman of Nelson David Ltd, says the directors are optimistic that the 12-month total will not be less than last year's peak £169,198.

Turnover of Nelson David—new and used car and commercial vehicle distributors and repairers in England and Wales—expanded by 18 per cent to £4.95m. The directors point out that although provision has again been made, no corporation tax was payable on the profits for the year to March 31, 1979. They consider that owing to the availability of stock relief and losses brought forward, it is unlikely that corporation tax will become payable for the year to March 31, 1980.

Back to profits at Newey Group

Smallware manufacturers, Newey Group, managed to achieve a profit, before tax, of £243,000 last year, against 1978's loss of £396,000. Turnover rose from £13.48m to £15.26m. There is no ordinary dividend; all the ordinary capital is held by William Prym-Werke.



Mr G. R. Chandler, chairman and managing director of Henlys, said at the annual general meeting that trading had picked up since the turn of the year. However, he added, the interim figures, taking account of the poor start to the year, would not by any means approach those of the corresponding six months. Mr Chandler is pictured (right above) with Mr D. A. Corps, a director. Short-term borrowing rates were still causing

concern, said Mr Chandler although the financial and sales support package recently presented by BL to the network would help. The group, he said, had an important property disinvestment programme in hand and about £1m had already been realized. "Fiscal finance charges played a significant part in our results," said Mr Chandler, "and, in common with the rest of British industry, we can only hope for some alleviation in the near future."

Restro wins bid for Polly Peck

By Our Financial Staff Restro Investments, the Jersey-based private group, has succeeded in its takeover bid for Polly Peck (Holdings), the clothesmaker and retailer. Barclays Merchant Bank announced yesterday that it had received acceptances for 2,913,592 million shares, of

which 2.9 million were held by Mr and Mrs Raymond Zelker, chairman and managing director respectively. They gave irrevocable undertakings to accept the 9p a share offer when it was made last month, although Mr Zelker later told other shareholders not to accept the offer after the share

price jumped ahead from 7p at the time of the bid to a high of nearly 23p. It is believed that Mr Derek Hayes, a fellow director who also gave an irrevocable undertaking for his 1 per cent stake, also accepted the Restro offer yesterday after the announcement was made.

Overseas turnaround at Nu-Swift Industries

By Our Financial Staff Fire extinguisher group, Nu-Swift Industries increased turnover by 14 per cent to £12.5m and profits by 20 per cent to £1.06m in 1979.

A breakdown of the figures shows overseas turnover rose from £3.1m to £3.8m and United Kingdom turnover from £7.9m to £8.65m. United Kingdom profits rose slightly from £1m to £1.05m but the real turnaround came from overseas where a £122,000 loss was turned into a £11,000 profit.

In addition, a property revaluation has thrown up a freehold land and building surplus of £1.4m and a plant, machinery and equipment surplus of £1.15m to give a total asset increase of 11.43p per share.

Mr Ivan Door, the chairman, comments that the year started with a serious national disruption and included in the third quarter a "futile engineering industry confrontation".

The engineering dispute cost the equivalent of three full weeks' production and just over £100,000 in lost profits. This was followed by a squeeze on margins, due to higher interest rates and inflation, as well as exporting problems due to the strength of sterling.

This year started with an order book of just over £1m, 20 per cent up on the orders at the beginning of last year. Total dividends for the year came to 2.93p gross against 2.5p last year.

Ultramar Company Limited

Worldwide operations contribute to record results

Preliminary Announcement of 1979 Group Results

Summary of Financial Results	1979 £ million	(restated) 1978 £ million	Increase £ million
Sales	1001.7	595.1	406.6
Operating profit before taxation	75.4	37.7	37.7
Operating profit after taxation	45.3	14.1	31.2
Net Profit	45.8	8.6	38.2
Cash flow from operations	86.3	31.6	54.7
Capital expenditures	40.0	45.6	(5.6)

It was a record year for the Ultramar Group. Sales revenue for the first time exceeded one million pounds. Cash flow from operations was £86,300,000 and the operating profit before taxation was £75,400,000. After deducting £30,100,000 for taxation and adding £1,500,000 of gains on foreign exchange fluctuations, the net profit for 1979 was £46,800,000. It should be pointed out that most of the earnings were in U.S. and Canadian dollars. When converted to sterling, the results are adversely affected because of the strength of sterling. The 1979 net profit was after writing off £15,500,000 of remaining unamortised exploration costs in an area where we have ceased operations.

All of the major divisions of the Ultramar Group contributed to the excellent results. Geographically, profits and cash flow were well spread, with the Indonesian operation contributing about 35 per cent of the total. In Eastern Canada, we were unable to acquire sufficient crude oil for our projected refinery and were therefore obliged to cut back on our volume of product sales. However, higher product prices and our emphasis on maximising operating margins gave us improved profits in Canada in the second half.

Capital expenditures for 1979 were £40,000,000 of which the major portion was spent on exploration and development in Indonesia, the North Sea and Western Canada. Our drilling programme, especially in Indonesia, was successful and there have been substantial additions to our oil and gas reserves. An announcement of the finalisation of contracts for expansion of the Bontang LNG Plant by doubling the capacity is expected shortly.

Dividends

An interim dividend of 5p per Ordinary Share was paid on 9th November 1979. We will recommend at the Annual General Meeting on 9th May 1980 that a final dividend of 10p per Ordinary Share be paid out of 1979 profits. This dividend will be paid on 9th May 1980 to Ordinary Shareholders registered at the close of business on 8th April 1980.

Outlook

We expect another good year in 1980. Predictions are always hazardous and we have to recognise that political upheavals, run-away inflation or arbitrary actions by Governments

can upset even the best of plans. However, we have a broadly based business, a sound financial position and a strong management.

Beyond 1980 we shall need to obtain access to additional and sizeable quantities of oil produced in Western Canada if we are to earn a fair return on our large refining and marketing investments in Eastern Canada. We will also redouble our efforts to find new sources of crude oil, especially in the U.K. North Sea. In the forthcoming Seventh Round, we have joined a number of separate groups to apply for licences on blocks in the various areas being offered.

The bulk of our present capital expenditures will not have a great impact on profits until 1983, when the expanded LNG plant in Indonesia will be on stream, the North Sea Maureen Field will be on full production and other capital expenditure programmes will have been completed.

Proposed Share Distribution

It is proposed to recommend to Ordinary Shareholders a Share distribution. At the forthcoming Annual General Meeting a resolution will be submitted for an issue to Ordinary Shareholders of one Ordinary Share of 25p credited as fully paid for each Ordinary Share of 25p held at the close of business on 8th April 1980.

Upon issue the Shares will rank pari passu with existing Ordinary Shares but will not rank for the final dividend to be declared at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting. The distribution will be provided by capitalising a sum drawn from the share premium account.

Share certificates, which will be renounceable up to and including 6th June 1980 will be posted on 9th May 1980. Application will be made for listing of the shares and it is expected that dealings in London will commence on 12th May 1980.

Annual Meeting

The Report and Accounts for 1979 and the Chairman's Statement will be issued on 17th April 1980. The Annual General Meeting will be held at 11 a.m. at Winchester House, 100 Old Broad Street, London EC2N 1BU on Friday 9th May 1980.

13th March 1980

Campbell Nelson
Chairman

Group Results for the Year to 31st December 1979

Consolidated Profit and Loss Account	1979 £ million	(restated) 1978 £ million
Sales	£1,001.7	£595.1
Profit on trading	106.4	60.2
Amortisation, depreciation, depletion and amounts written off	15.5	12.5
Elimination of remaining unamortised costs in Iran	15.5	—
Operating profit before taxation	75.4	37.7
Taxation on operating profit (Note 6)	—	—
Current	15.6	13.2
Deferred	14.5	10.4
Operating profit after taxation	38.1	23.6
Foreign exchange fluctuations - gains/(losses) (Note 2)	45.3	14.1
Net Profit	1.5	(5.9)
Dividends	45.8	8.6
Convertible Redeemable Preferred Shares	0.9	1.0
Ordinary Shares - Interim 5p per share	2.3	—
- Final 10p per share	4.6	—
Advance Corporation Tax written off	3.4	0.8
Earnings retained for the year	11.2	1.8
Cash flow from operations	£86.3	£31.6
Earnings per Ordinary Share:		
Basic	39.3p	15.3p
Fully Diluted	88.7p	16.6p

Consolidated Statement of Source and Application of Funds

	1979 £ million	(restated) 1978 £ million
Source of Funds		
From operations		
Operating profit after taxation	45.3	14.1
Amortisation, depreciation, depletion and amounts written off	31.0	12.5
Deferred taxation on trading profits	14.5	10.4
Indonesian debt service equalisation (Note 4)	(4.5)	(6.9)
Loss on sale of fixed assets	—	1.5
Cash flow from operations	86.3	31.6
From other sources:		
Shares issued during the year	1.0	0.2
Long term loans raised	5.4	19.6
Proceeds on disposal of fixed assets	1.9	2.0
Net current assets of subsidiaries acquired	—	12.2
	94.6	65.6
Application of funds		
Acquisition of subsidiary companies	3.4	22.8
Additions to fixed assets	36.6	23.0
Capital expenditures	40.0	45.6
Portion of long term debt due within one year	9.5	4.5
Miscellaneous items	0.8	1.5
	50.4	52.0
Convertible Redeemable Preferred Shares dividend (including Advance Corporation Tax £399,000) (1978: £516,000)	1.3	1.5
1979 Interim Ordinary Shares dividend (including Advance Corporation Tax £989,600)	3.3	—
1979 Final Ordinary Shares dividend (payable May 1980) (including Advance Corporation Tax £1,982,000)	6.6	—
Increase in working capital	11.2	1.5
	33.0	12.1
Working capital at 31st December 1979	£54.3	£20.8
Long term loans at 31st December 1979	£77.2	£80.2

Operating Results

	1979	1978
Sales of oil (barrels per day)	279,900	222,300
Oil refined (barrels per day)	37,700	104,400
Oil produced (barrels per day)	9,800	9,600
Gas produced (thousands of cubic feet per day)	374,800	186,900
Net Average Interest	2,982,000	3,125,000
Gross wells drilled	51	43
Oil and gas wells completed (in which the Group has varying interests)	41	22

Ultramar

2 Broad Street Place, London EC2M 7EP



Secretarial and Non-Secretarial Appointments

LA CREME DE LA CREME

ADVERTISING
A good chance to get into a new business and to a new Director and to a new business. The company is growing and the Director is looking for a good person to join the team. The company is growing and the Director is looking for a good person to join the team. The company is growing and the Director is looking for a good person to join the team.

MANAGING DIRECTOR'S SECRETARY
For dynamic West End computer company, willing to learn word processing. Salary £5,000 negotiable. Tel. 580 8841. Abacus Computers Ltd.

£5,000 p.a. for Shortland Secretary
1200-60 to work for legal executive in friendly, informal office. More important than salary is the opportunity to work for a dynamic and successful company. Ring: Bramble 01-625 1208

SECRETARIAL
LEAVING COLLEGE?
If you are looking for your first job and want something interesting with career potential, come and talk to us. We have a good selection of Secretarial jobs in all areas.
01-730 5148 (Consultants)
MAYGARS

COLLEGE LEAVERS
The big wide world is waiting for you! Set your feet on the first rung of the career ladder by taking advice from the experts.
Ring Amanda Teale, Senior Secretaries Recruitment Consultants, 01-606 1611.

QUEEN MARY COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON
SECRETARY required for General Secretary's Office. The post holder will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office and will be required to handle a wide range of correspondence and to act as a liaison between the various departments of the College. The post holder will also be responsible for the management of the office staff and for the maintenance of the office equipment. The post holder will be required to have a good knowledge of the College and to be able to handle a wide range of correspondence and to act as a liaison between the various departments of the College. The post holder will also be responsible for the management of the office staff and for the maintenance of the office equipment.

COMPANY MAGAZINE
Is looking for a bright young person to work in the Advertising Department. Good knowledge of the company and its products is essential. The post holder will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office and will be required to handle a wide range of correspondence and to act as a liaison between the various departments of the company. The post holder will also be responsible for the management of the office staff and for the maintenance of the office equipment.

GERMAN WITH MUSIC TO £5,000
Fluent German to compose and arrange music for a new album. The post holder will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office and will be required to handle a wide range of correspondence and to act as a liaison between the various departments of the company. The post holder will also be responsible for the management of the office staff and for the maintenance of the office equipment.

COVENT GARDEN BUREAU
55 Fleet Street, E.C.4.
01-353 7696

STELLA FISHER BUREAU
Sec. (Shortland and Audio) young, energetic, experienced in typing, shorthand, and office management. The post holder will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office and will be required to handle a wide range of correspondence and to act as a liaison between the various departments of the company. The post holder will also be responsible for the management of the office staff and for the maintenance of the office equipment.

YOU DESERVE THE BEST SO LOOK FOR DRAKE PERSONNEL'S ADS IN THE PAPER ON MONDAY

ADMIN ASSISTANT
Graduate with 2 years' experience in a large company. The post holder will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office and will be required to handle a wide range of correspondence and to act as a liaison between the various departments of the company. The post holder will also be responsible for the management of the office staff and for the maintenance of the office equipment.

CHALLENGERS - CHALLENGERS
The finest opportunity for placing the top people in the top jobs. The post holder will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office and will be required to handle a wide range of correspondence and to act as a liaison between the various departments of the company. The post holder will also be responsible for the management of the office staff and for the maintenance of the office equipment.

SENIOR SECRETARY
Wanted urgently for City Bank. Salary £6,000 p.a. The post holder will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office and will be required to handle a wide range of correspondence and to act as a liaison between the various departments of the company. The post holder will also be responsible for the management of the office staff and for the maintenance of the office equipment.

EXTRAVAGANT
A good chance to get into a new business and to a new Director and to a new business. The company is growing and the Director is looking for a good person to join the team. The company is growing and the Director is looking for a good person to join the team. The company is growing and the Director is looking for a good person to join the team.

TELESA SERVICES
A good chance to get into a new business and to a new Director and to a new business. The company is growing and the Director is looking for a good person to join the team. The company is growing and the Director is looking for a good person to join the team. The company is growing and the Director is looking for a good person to join the team.

NON-SECRETARIAL

HALCYON DAYS ENAMELS
Mail order of beautiful collectors' items. Communicated by letter and telephone and processing discerning clients' orders is an absorbing occupation. Must be numerate and an accurate typist. References required. circa £4,500. 14 Brook St., W.1. 409 1914.

HAVE FUN THIS SUMMER
Would you like to join a group of young people in Devon? We need attractive, energetic people for the summer holidays. The company is growing and the Director is looking for a good person to join the team. The company is growing and the Director is looking for a good person to join the team. The company is growing and the Director is looking for a good person to join the team.

RAREBITTS
Rarebitts is a new and exciting way of making money. The company is growing and the Director is looking for a good person to join the team. The company is growing and the Director is looking for a good person to join the team. The company is growing and the Director is looking for a good person to join the team.

TEMPING TIMES
Jules and Marianne have more temp bookings in Sligo and Beller companies with more variety than any other temping agency. Phone 01-625 1208. Graduate Girls Secretarial, Open to male/female applicants.

LEGAL NOTICES
THE MILES GROUP PARTNERSHIP (LONDON) LTD. has been dissolved. The company is growing and the Director is looking for a good person to join the team. The company is growing and the Director is looking for a good person to join the team. The company is growing and the Director is looking for a good person to join the team.

THE COMPANIES ACT 1948
NOTICE is hereby given, pursuant to Section 240 of the Companies Act 1948, that a meeting of the shareholders of the company will be held at the registered office of the company on the 14th day of March 1980 at 10.00 o'clock in the morning.

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FINANCIAL NEWS

Briefly

Stewart & Wight: Profit for half-year to Sept 29, £2,229 (£1,812) before depreciation and tax estimated at £1,541 (£5,155). Figures for 1978 not true comparison.

Gold & Base Metal Mines: Pretax profits for half-year to June 30, 1979, rose from £133,000 to £208,000.

Van Diemen's Land Co: Company is now proceeding with the share repurchase of 100,000 shares for each "A" held.

Farings Mining and Exploration: Board reports that on company's United Kingdom request, 1.65m shares were taken up by shareholders to whom they were provisionally allotted under rights issue, leaving balance of 189,000 shares available to applicants for additional shares. In United Kingdom, 525 applications were received for 2.2m additional shares.

Clarke: Turnover for 1979, £12.82m (£12.35m). Pretax profits, £476,000 (£357,000). Total dividend raised from 1.4p to 2p, gross.

Ladies Pride Outwear: Chairman reports in his annual statement that the Wyndale Group acquisition has now been integrated into the production force, though not without considerable cost of training and re-training of operatives.

Findhorn Finance: Turnover for six months to Jan 31 up from £473,000 to £775,000. Profit, after tax, £85,000 (£55,000). Interim payment raised from 5p to 5.5p.

International Energy Bank: Pretax profits for 1979, £3,350 (£2,470).

Mainline Electronics: Lloyds Bank ordinary shares in name of Lloyds Bank City Office Nominees designated "A" account as nominees of its customers, Norton Warbury Credit Build Ltd (5.05 per cent).

Maple (Holdings): An announcement was made on March 2, 1980, rejecting proposals received from the board of directors of Maple for the share capital of Maple. To clarify the position regarding this approach, the board of directors of Maple has decided that it has no intention to believe that the potential offer was not contemplating putting forward further proposals. Should the board of Maple be informed by the potential offer that it has no further interest in making an offer for Maple, it will inform shareholders.

North-East SA: Net profit, 20.71m (£10.71m) for 1979, total dividend 3.15 francs (nil). (Company was formerly called Denain North-East Longwy SA.)—Reuter, Paris.

Marine Wendel SA: Profit, after write-offs but before adjustment for provisions, £20.71m (£10.71m) for 1979, total dividend 3.15 francs (nil). (Company was formerly called Denain North-East Longwy SA.)—Reuter, Paris.

Barclays Credit Corp: 150 per cent-owned by Barclays Bank International reports pretax profits for half-year to Jan 31 of £43.7m (against £43.8m). Total assets, \$A319.65m (\$A304.9m).

ITT reports record revenues

International Telephone and Telegraph has reported record sales and revenues of \$22,000m in 1979, passing the \$20,000m level for the first time. Earnings per share, excluding a one-time special charge of \$330m, or \$2.32 a share, to cover the closing of its Quebec pulp mill, increased by 7 per cent over 1978. However, including the special charge, restructuring costs in Europe and the acceleration of investment in digital communications technology, net income for the company declined to \$381m from \$662m in 1978.

"In 1980 we expect record earnings accompanied by increased sales and a strengthened balance sheet", Mr Rand V. Araskog, chairman, president and chief executive, said. Last year, he made critical decisions to ensure growth and profitability momentum. These decisions will result in a stronger company not only in 1980 but for the decade ahead.

Mr Araskog noted that all five of ITT's principal business groups reported record sales and revenues and that at year-end 1979 ITT had an order backlog of a record \$7,700m.

Honeywell
Honeywell of Minneapolis says it expects a decline in first quarter earnings from the year earlier \$2.75 a share, which included tax credits of 8 cents. The company said that incoming orders remained strong in the first quarter of 1980. The balance sheet total was \$1,747.4m (up 15.5 per cent). Dividend is 12 per cent (11 per cent).

Norske Creditbank
Den Norske Creditbank of Norway showed a net profit of \$127m (about £102m) in 1979. The balance sheet total was \$1,747.4m (up 15.5 per cent). Dividend is 12 per cent (11 per cent).

Svenska Taendsticks
Group profit of Svenska Taendsticks of Stockholm, before transfers to and from special reserves and before tax, amounted to \$1,747.4m (about £1,424m). Sales were \$1,747.4m (K55.91bn) (K55.91bn). The parent company dividend is \$1,747.4m (K55.91bn).

Hochtief Construction
The West German construction firm, Hochtief AG, says the value of group construction activities in 1979 rose by 16 per cent to DM58n.

Revlon-Brazil link
Mr Milan Panic, chairman of ICI Pharmaceuticals, has announced that the company has reached agreement in principle to sell its Brazilian operations to Revlon. The amount of the cash transaction was not disclosed. Mr Panic reported that the proposed transaction is a further step in the redirection and restructuring of ICI.

Optimism at OPC
Despite the embargo on phosphate sales to Russia, 1980 profits for Occidental Petroleum's agricultural products should be higher than in 1979, Mr Donald L. Baeder, president of Occidental's Hooker Chemical

Ultramar doubles forecast dividend

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Ultramar's first year of cash dividend payments has been a bumper one. Pretax profits have doubled to £75.4m and the final dividend is twice the forecast level to give a total of 21.4p gross for the year to December 31.

On the back of higher oil prices, which helped improve margins throughout the group, sales rose from £59.5m to just over £1,000m. The pretax profit was struck after charging £15.5m amortization and depreciation costs, compared with £12.5m in 1978, and there was also a one-off £15.5m write-off against the remaining unamortized exploration costs in 1979.

Adding back the Iranian write-off and £14.5m of deferred tax, cash flow from operations increased from £31.6m to £86.3m. Of this, £40m was swallowed up by capital spending mainly on exploration and development in Indonesia, the North Sea and western Canada.

Financing higher oil prices, mainly in Canada, tied up a further £23.1m in working capital, but Ultramar still managed a modest reduction in long-term debt from £80.2m to £77.2m, although the strong pound reducing the sterling value of dollar debt was a factor here.

The increase in profits was much greater at the net level because of the proportionately lower tax charge. Most of the current tax relates to Indonesia where corporation tax is levied at 56 per cent. However, Indonesian tax is still poor, but Ultramar is confident of another good year in 1980. A one-for-one scrip issue is proposed. The shares, which were up 24p to 52.4p on the results, yield 4.1 per cent and sell on just over five years' stated earnings.

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Television strike hits HTV half-year profits

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Last year's 11-week television strike sliced into half-year profits at HTV, the independent contractor which serves Wales and the West of England.

Furthermore all the group's non-television activities except its inter-group property and leasing operation turned in lower profits with the result that the group taxable surplus for the half-year to January 31 was halved from £2.45m to £1.1m.

HTV has maintained the interim dividend at 5p gross a share. The non-voting shares fell 5p to 91p yesterday after the announcement. At this level the share is 15 per cent below its 1978-79 run out at £4.49m before tax.

Television turnover was 18 per cent lower at £11.2m, which

was roughly in line with the 17 per cent fall in total network advertising revenue for the same period.

The group's publishing and stationary activities included a seasonal loss from dummies and pre-interest profits were down from £526,000 to £185,000. The fine art side, which includes Fros & Reed, also had a disappointing half with profits falling by nearly a third from £44,000 to £27,000 on sales 18 per cent lower at £1.15m.

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Mr Campbell Nelson, chairman of Ultramar.

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BELL'S
SCOTCH WHISKY
BELL'S

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Motoring

Car makers step up fight against rust

Just from accident damage, the cost of a car having to be sold before its time is enormous. Rust attacks nearly all cars greater or lesser extent and it gets a hold little can be to stop it.

Some years ago the Government's sport and Road Research Institute estimated that the cost of corrosion in cars was £1.5 billion a year. Allowing for inflation, that is to be brought up to date it is to be doubled and probably more.

Much of the blame for corrosion is apportioned to the car makers (a means of building in obsolescence, so the cynics have maintained). The main charges against them are that they do too little at design stage to prevent rusting and that their anti-corrosion treatments are inadequate.

Louis Smith, technical director to Ziebart, one of the leading specialist rustproofing companies, thinks that too many manufacturers actually encourage rust by leaving vulnerable areas exposed. This particularly applies to the front wings where, he says, some 60 per cent of serious corrosion occurs.

"The best service a car manufacturer can offer the customer is to design corrosion out. BL, for instance, has enclosed all wheel arches on the Rover and uses plastic liners on the Princess. But there are still many cars with their front wing areas open."

As for treatments applied to new cars on the line, Mr Smith says that their effectiveness has to be judged by the time spent. The Ziebart process, which claims to be comprehensive, takes four hours and a manufacturer cannot pretend to give the same protection in a few minutes.

Ziebart reckons that even the best on-line treatments will be only a fifth as effective as its process, partly because the area of metal covered is so much less. "Often," Mr Smith says, "the little that is done only serves to encourage corrosion more quickly in the non-protected areas."

Nevertheless, manufacturers are more concerned about rust than they were 10 years ago and the standard of preventive treatment has risen. Electrophoretic processes ensure 100 per cent coverage of paint; plastic sealing compounds are applied to metal joints and wax is injected into boxed sections. Chip-resistant material is used on sills, wheel arches and the floor pan.

Ford has introduced improved rust protection methods into all its European plants after studying corrosion on 4,500 cars of various makes, and a growing number of manufacturers offer guarantees against corrosion. The latest to do so is Lancia, which like other Italian makes, notably Fiat and Alfa Romeo, has had a particularly bad record in this field.

All new Lancia cars now get a special protection treatment which is applied in Britain before delivery to the customer and is guaranteed for six years. A condition of the warranty is that retro-treatments are carried out at 23 and 42 months, for which the owner has to pay. The total cost is around £50.

Renault cars are treated at a plant in Le Havre before being shipped over. They carry a five-year guarantee, subject, as in Lancia's case, to two interim inspections and whatever retro-treatment is necessary. The cost to the owner is about £80. Volkswagen is prepared to give a six-year warranty on its on-line protection and makes no charge for further work.

These manufacturer warranties usually carry limitations. Lancia's, for instance, covers "major structural areas" but not the doors. Volkswagen will deal only with rust through from inside the car and not rust that can be attributed to damage or neglect. The main limitation on Fiat's guarantee is that it lasts only two years, before indeed, rust may have started to show.

The new car buyer unimpressed by such schemes can go to a rust-proofing specialist like Ziebart, Protector (formerly Endrust) and Bodyshield (to name the three that have been awarded the Automobile Association's Seal of Approval on both the process and its application). They would claim to do a

Diesel turbo version of the Peugeot 604

The 604 uses a 2300cc four-cylinder unit, which is a British-made Garrett turbocharger in such a way as to provide high power at low engine speeds. Maximum torque is at only 2,000 rpm. Acceleration through the gears is not exceptional, 0 to 60 mph in 17 seconds is little better than a Mini, but the turbo gives enough top-gear flexibility for most needs.

The turbo does not arrive with a great surge, as it does on pure performance cars, but so discreetly as to go unnoticed by the evidence of the speedometer. Indeed, the general level of refinement, except when the engine is pushed hard and becomes boomy, makes the car seem almost faster than it is. Apart from a suspicion of clatter at idling speed and, of course, that bluish smoke, it is easy to forget there is a diesel engine.

But the most impressive feature of the car is its fuel consumption, about 30 mpg in town and 34 on the open road. No petrol car of comparable size can remotely match these figures, which is why the turbodiesel is particularly relevant to the United States, where car manufacturers have to meet fuel consumption targets laid down by the Administration.

On the other hand, does the 604 meet the overall needs of the motorist when other costs are taken into account?

Both a diesel engine and a turbocharger add considerably to the price of the car. The Peugeot 604 turbodiesel, at £23,500, is almost £900 dearer than the equivalent petrol model. In addition, diesel

fuel is about 10p a gallon dearer than petrol. It does not require complicated arithmetic to establish that the person buying the turbodiesel has to do an exceptionally high mileage before the low fuel consumption begins to pay.

But Peugeot usually assesses the market correctly—it did not it would not now be heading the biggest car making group in Europe, and it is firmly convinced that turbodiesel is right for the times. Of total 604 production, 36 per cent are turbodiesels and in France they represent half the model's sales. And if Britain has been slower to accept diesel than most big car markets, sales of diesel cars did rise by more than half last year, with Peugeot taking the biggest share.

The orthodox use of turbo is well represented by the Saab 900. Here the aim is performance first and last, the turbo effecting a dramatic increase in power which has the car bounding away like a horse from the stalls. And the car can be enjoyed without too much guilt about wasting fuel, for consumption, considering the performance available, is modest at 22 to 29 mpg.

There are one or two reservations. The car seemed generally noisier than the petrol-engined 900 I drove recently and thanks to stiffer suspension the ride was harder. And as the effect of the turbo is not fully felt until the engine is turning over at about 3,000 rpm, the car has to be driven fairly hard to reap that benefit. It is, therefore, a vehicle for the enthusiast and at £10,300 an expensive buy.

Peter Waymark



CAR BUYER'S GUIDE

FRANK DALE & STEPSONS

1980 Rolls-Royce Silver Cloud III, D.H.C. by Mulliner-Park Ward, dual with Magnolia hide, recently subject to considerable overhaul.

1980 Rolls-Royce Silver Cloud III, 4-door Saloon, Black over Dawn ivy, with blue/grey hide. With a good history, including a recent overhaul of engine and suspension.

1978 Bentley T-Type Saloon, Larch green with beige hide. Full 1978 100,000 miles and an excellent service history.

1978 Bentley R-Type, D.H.C. by Park Ward, Pacific green over vel green with fine beige hide. A beautiful car well known to for over 12 years and highly recommended.

1978 Bentley R-Type, Saloon. Shell grey over Connacht green. Recording only 54,000 miles from new; probably the best omatic R-Type at present available.

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1979 V CX 2400 Pallas, Injection, C-matic, 4,000 miles. £5,750.
1978 CX 2400 Pallas, Injection, C-matic, Air-cond. Stereo, 6,000 miles. £7,750.
1979 V CX 2400 Pallas, 3,000 miles. £5,750.
1979 GS Pallas, Choice from £3,495.
1978 GS Pallas, Choice from £3,495.
1980 (Series) Viva Club Saloon, 4,000 miles. £2,550.
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11 am at Sealink Bus Depot, St. Peter Port
Albion Buses 1st Registered 1933-1958 Inc.
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Tel. 0481 24577

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1978 JAGUAR XJS, 4.2—Immense. 1 owner. Full service history. Air-conditioning. Stereo. New tyres and exhaust. New car delivered. £7,800. For quick sale. Finance possible. Tel. Redman Thanelet G274 office.

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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING STARTS HERE

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- APPOINTMENTS 29
- BUSINESS TO BUSINESS 29
- CAR BUYER'S GUIDE 29
- DOMESTIC SITUATIONS 29
- EDUCATIONAL 29
- ENTERTAINMENTS 29
- FINANCIAL 29
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- LEGAL NOTICES 29
- HOLIDAYS AND HOTELS 29
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For a complete list of classified advertising rates and conditions, please refer to the 'Classified Advertising' section on page 31 of this issue. For a complete list of classified advertising rates and conditions, please refer to the 'Classified Advertising' section on page 31 of this issue.

PRIVATE ADVERTISERS ONLY

- APPOINTMENTS 01-837 331
- PROPERTY ESTATE AGENTS 01-837 331
- PERSONAL TRADE 01-837 331
- MANCHESTER OFFICE 01-837 331

Queries in connection with advertisements that have appeared, other than cancellations or alterations, should be sent to the Classified Advertising Department, 01-837 331, ext. 7180. All advertisements are subject to the conditions of acceptance of Times Newspapers Limited, copies of which are available on request.

PLEASE CHECK YOUR AD

We make every effort to avoid errors in advertisements. Each one is carefully checked and proofread. When thousands of advertisements are handled, each day mistakes do occur and we ask therefore that you check your ad and, if you spot an error, report it to the Classified Advertising Department immediately by telephone (01-837 331 ext. 7180). We cannot be responsible for more than one day's incorrect insertion if you do not.

THE DEADLINE FOR ALL COPY IS 24 HOURS

Alterations to copy by 3.00 pm prior to the day of publication. For Monday's issue the deadline is 12.00 noon Saturday. On all cancellations a Stop Number will be issued to the advertiser. On any subsequent queries regarding the cancellation, this Stop Number must be quoted.

I will praise thee, O Lord my God, with all my heart, and will glorify you before all eyes for evermore. (Psalm 66:1-3)

BIRTHS

AGATE—On March 11th, to Sue (nee Bennett) and David, a son, Alexander. (01-837 331 ext. 7180).

BRADLEY-JONES—On March 11th, to Susan (nee Taylor) and John, a daughter, Elizabeth. (01-837 331 ext. 7180).

BREATHWATE—On March 11th, to Susan (nee Taylor) and John, a daughter, Elizabeth. (01-837 331 ext. 7180).

BROOKER—On March 11th, to Susan (nee Taylor) and John, a daughter, Elizabeth. (01-837 331 ext. 7180).

DOUGLAS-JONES—On March 11th, to Susan (nee Taylor) and John, a daughter, Elizabeth. (01-837 331 ext. 7180).

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MUGHES—On March 11th, to Susan (nee Taylor) and John, a daughter, Elizabeth. (01-837 331 ext. 7180).

DEATHS

ALICE—On March 11th, 1980, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. J. H. Smith, 123, High Street, London, W.1, aged 85. (01-837 331 ext. 7180).

CHARLES—On March 11th, 1980, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. J. H. Smith, 123, High Street, London, W.1, aged 85. (01-837 331 ext. 7180).

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PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGE 29

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE TIMES deeply regrets the inconvenience and reduction in service to its classified advertisers. This is caused by severe staff shortages in the Telephone Sales Department. Whilst everything possible is being done to improve the situation, we would ask advertisers to continue sending advertisements and notices in writing to The Times, Room 3115, PO Box 7, New Printing House Square, Gray's Inn Road, London WC1N 8EP. If you require any further help, please ring 01-837 331; we apologise should there be a delay in getting through.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE ROYAL NATIONAL PENSION FUND FOR NURSES
Patron: Queen Elizabeth II
The fund was established in 1945 to provide a pension for retired nurses. It is now open to all nurses who have served for at least 10 years. For further details, please contact the fund's office at 1, Whitehall Court, London SW1A 2BX.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

IN MEMORIAM
PARKER, CHARLES "BIRD"
12.3.35, New York City, many friends. Buried in the cemetery of St. Paul's Church, London, on Tuesday, March 18th, at noon.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PORTHOMING EVENTS
UNIQUE FRENCH fashion show. Fashion from the Paris Museum of Modern Art, featuring designs by Yves Saint Laurent, Christian Dior, and others. Tickets available from 01-837 331.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEETING WITH REMARKABLE MEN
The teachings of G. I. Gurdjieff, a Russian mystic and philosopher, are being presented in a series of lectures. The first lecture will be held on Friday, March 14th, at 8.00 pm, at the Royal Albert Hall, London.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ARENA FAILURES
A series of lectures on the failures of the human mind, presented by a leading psychologist. The first lecture will be held on Friday, March 14th, at 8.00 pm, at the Royal Albert Hall, London.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN
Action research for the crippled. A series of lectures on the progress of action research for the physically handicapped. The first lecture will be held on Friday, March 14th, at 8.00 pm, at the Royal Albert Hall, London.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS
The Directors Lodge Club welcomes you to be our guest for complimentary drinks. The club is open every evening from 7.00 pm to 11.00 pm. For further details, please contact the club's office at 01-837 331.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPORT AND RECREATION
AUSTRALIAN 7 Support your local sportsmen and women. A series of lectures on the achievements of Australian sportsmen and women. The first lecture will be held on Friday, March 14th, at 8.00 pm, at the Royal Albert Hall, London.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WINE AND DINE
SCOTTISH smoked salmon. A series of lectures on the art of smoking salmon. The first lecture will be held on Friday, March 14th, at 8.00 pm, at the Royal Albert Hall, London.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

UK HOLIDAYS
For your holiday in the British Isles this year, don't miss today's "HOLIDAYS & HOTELS IN GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND". Advertisers ring 01-278 9351. In the North ring Manchester 061-834 1324.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TO Brian Clough Magic! Mustard!
Henry Post

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LA CREME DE LA CREME WORKS!
"URGENT ST JAMES'S"
This satisfied advertiser used The Times to fill his PA/Secretarial appointment "because The Times is the obvious choice". They received 20 excellent replies on the 1st day and filled the vacancy. If you have appointments you need to fill successfully, why not use "The obvious choice" and call The Recruitment Team NOW on 01-278 9161.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHORT LETS
HOLIDAY LETS—Luxury flat in London SW1, 3-4 beds, 10 bathrooms, lounge, dining, kitchen, central heating, gas, electric, dishwasher, etc. Tel: 01-278 9351.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEO TRAVEL
Single people get together with Club One Holidays. Malta, Greece, Cyprus, etc. Tel: 01-278 9351.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNAIR THE GREAT NAME IN TRAVEL
Athens, Crete, Corfu, etc. Tel: 01-278 9351.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

AVS in MALTA
For your special holiday rates, contact us at 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

SUNSHINE & SNOW

March is the best time to visit the sun and snow. The weather is perfect, the crowds are small, and the prices are low. For further details, please contact our travel agents at 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

GREEK VILLAS
Crete, Rhodes, etc. Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

RHODES
Inclusive holidays available to all. Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

EASTERN AMERICA WITH THOMSON
Just look at these holidays to Eastern America from the east. Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

GET AWAY
On a holiday holiday holiday. Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

ATLANTIC 43
Yacht charter, 43 days. Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

SPEND NEXT SUMMER IN AMERICA—ALL EXPENSES PAID
Spend your summer in America. Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

PETRA
The forgotten city. Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

BARGAIN TRAVEL PRICE SHINKERS
Athenes, Corfu, etc. Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

MAIDAN KAISEH WILHELM II ON CORFU
Read all about it in the Sun. Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

CARIBBEAN CRUISING
Cruise in style. Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

COURMAYEUR
33 March 20. Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

ALCAZAR VILLAS
Most with 100. Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

WANTED: House with garden for rent
Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

FLY INTO THE EAST WITH FLIGHTS TO
Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

FROM £59 RETURN
Lowest possible fares. Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

SUNAIR THE GREAT NAME IN TRAVEL
Athens, Crete, Corfu, etc. Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

EUROFARE

Cuts the Cost of Flying. Europe flights after 10.00 am. Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

GOING TO GREECE? THINK EUROSTON
We still have exceptional inclusive holidays. Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

JET TO SWITZERLAND FOR EASTER
Only £79 return. Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

APHRODITE'S ISLAND CYPRUS
The perfect island holiday. Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

IT'S MAGIC SKIING IN THE PRINCIPALITY OF ANDORRA
Fly British Airways to this magic land. Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

U.S.A. SUMMER CAMPS FOR CHILDREN 7-17
There is nothing greater than a summer camp. Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

YOUR VILLA IN CORFU
See a specialist selection. Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

SUNSCAPE HOLIDAYS
25-25 (107) Eastcastle St. Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

FLORILLA SAILING
Come and join our new sailing club. Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

BEAGLELAND VILLA HOLIDAYS
Italy & France. Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

EASTERN
Fly with private pool and staff. Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

EUROPE
Tel. Air Ag. 336 6019/6022.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

APRIL BARGAINS IN CORFU AND RHODES

Rhodes departures: 17, 24 April from Gatwick. Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

PORTLAND HOLIDAYS
218 Great Portland Street, London, W.1. Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

EUROPEAN ECONOMY FLIGHTS
Inclusive arrangements from. Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

SKI ANDORRA
March-Skiing £60 for a week. Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

YOUNG WOLF HOLIDAY
29 Queens Road, Brighton. Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

MARRELLA, PUERI BANUS
Fly to Sicily. Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

UNITED AIR TRAVEL
Offer flights to: Rome, Athens, etc. Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

MAKE MINE MOROCCO
Just a little bit extra. Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

SKI VAL D'ISERE
End of season bargain. Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

FOR VILLA HOLIDAYS
Cote d'Azur and Spain. Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

SKI VACANCIES
At St. John's, etc. Tel: 01-278 9351.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

EUROPE
Tel. Air Ag. 336 6019/6022.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

WINDMILL
With private pool. Tel: 01-278 9351.

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